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TEXT OF PROPOSED NEW ARAB LEAGUE CHARTER

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12-14 Jan 81

[Reprint by AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, in three installments, of the text of the proposed amended Charter of the Arab League, transmitted by AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM's correspondent in Tunisia]

[12 Jan 81 p 19]

[Text] In the city of Tunis they discussed the amendment of the Arab League Charter. Representatives of the Arab nations held meetings in order to discuss the draft amendment of the Charter which was summitted by the Secretariat-General of the Arab League. This is considered to be the first action of this sort since the founding of the Arab League in 1945. It is the first proposal of a major constitutional amendment of the League's Charter, the wording of which reflects the mentality of the forties.

The new draft amendment concentraties on a new and evolving wording of the Charter's text which stresses the achievement of Arab integration in various realms and moving toward the realization of Arab unity. The new draft Charter also provides for the settlement of Arab disputes by peaceful means.

In the political realm, the new draft Charter emphasizes the creation of a strategy of joint Arab action and of a policy for the defense of the Arab world and its security. Concerning security and defense matters, the new Charter recommends setting up plans which guarantee the protection of the security of the Arab world as well as the means for implementing these plans, the creation of a policy of cooperation and integration in the intellectual realm, and the taking of political, economic, and military measures against any nation which attacks an Arab nation.

[Text of the Amended Charter]

[Preamble]

The members of the League of Arab Nations, who:

Believe in the unity of the destiny of the Arabs;

Are inspired by the values and heritage of the Arab nation, and bel eve in the necessity to preserve these values and this heritage;

Are determined to achieve social justice and to guarantee human rights in the Arab world;

Insist on channeling Arab resources and wealth toward the development, liberation, and economic integration of the Arab world;

Seek to guarantee the security of the Arab world and combat the forces of Zionism, imperialism, and aggression;

Are conscious of the Arab world's status, cultural position, human and material potential, and the importance of its role in contributing toward the progress of human civilization and toward preserving international peace and security;

Are concerned bbout the necessity to develop the League of Arab Nations so that it can become an instrument for achieving Arab unity;

Have agreed to amend the Charter of the League of Arab Nations in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter, with the resulting text being as follows:

Section I. Objectives and Principles

Article 1

The objectives of the Arab League are:

1. To lead the Arab nation toward unity, and in pursuit of this aim the League is striving to:

A. Consolidate ties between the Arab nations and achieve integration between them in all realms within the framework of their joint interest.

B. Guarantee the security of the Arab world and consider any action of aggression against any one of the Arab nations t be an act of aggression against all of them.

C. Strengthen the sovereignty of the Arab nations over their wealth and have them utilize their natural, financial, and human resources within the framework of integral Arab planning for the purpose of achieving comprehensive Arab development and protecting the environment in the Arab world.

D. Acquaint [the international community] with Arab cultural values and revitalize and preserve our Arab heritage.

E. Consolidate joint Arab action by achieving coordination and integration between Arab organizations, councils, and commissions.

2. To guarantee human rights in the Arab world as well as people's physical safety and intellectual freedom, and to enable people to exercise their basic freedoms in order to achieve an Arab society based on democracy, equality, and social justice.

3. To strive to liberate Palestine and to combat all forms of racism and racial discrimination.

4. To combat Zionism as well as imperialism and aggression in all their forms.

5. To support international peace and security and to strive to establish a new international order based on freedom, justice, and equality in accordance with the principles of the United Nations and the principles of non-alignment.

6. To strengthen cooperation with both regional and international organizations and to strive to [have the Arab nations] adopt united Arab positions with regard to international issues.

Article 2

In pursuit of the objectives outlined in Article 1, the Arab nations and their League affirm their commitment to the following principles:

1. Considering [the welfare of] man to be the objective of all political, economic, and social action, and considering him to be the basic element in the achievement of all progress in civilization.

2. Equality among the member states of the League.

3. Encouragement of steps toward unity among the member states and considering such steps to be a stage on the road toward achieving total Arab unity.

4. Non-interference in the internal affairs of the member states and the conduct of business and dealings with one another on the basis of the principle of good will.

5. Renunciation of the use of force, or the threat to use force, against the integrity of the territory of any member state of the League, against any member state's political independence, or in any other respect which is at variance with the objectives of this Charter.

6. The settlement of disputes between member states by peaceful means and striving to solve these disputes within the scope of the League of Arab Nations before having recourse to other international organizations.

7. Respecting and implementing the decisions of the League.

8, Not adopting any policy which is at variance with the objectives and principles of the League or which is harmful to the joint interest of the Arab nations.

[Section II. Membership]

Article 3

The League shall include the nations which signed its Charter which was ratified on 22 March 1945 as well as the nations which joined the League after that date.

Article 4

1. Every independent Arab nation shall have the right to join the League if it abides by all of the provisions of its Charter and if Arabic is its official language.

2. The Supreme Council shall be the body which decides on requests for membership on the basis of recommendations from the Political Affairs and Defense Council.

Article 5

If any member state violates the provisions of this Charter, the Supreme Council, on the basis of a recommendation from the Political Affairs and Defense Council, shall take appropriate disciplinary measures, including discontinuation of membership, and the nation concerned shall not have the right to vote when these measures are being voted on.

Section III. Bodies of the League

Article 6

The League shall have the following principal bodies:

1. The Supreme Council of the League.

2. The Political Affairs and Defense Council.

3. The Economic and Social Integration and Development Council.

4. The Arab Court of Justice.

5. The Secretariat-General.

All of these principal bodies shall have the right to establish whatever branch organizations they deem necessary.

The Supreme Council of the League

Article 7

1. The Supreme Council of the League shall be the League's highest authority and shall consist of the Arab heads of state or Arab heads of government.

2. The Council shall meet in a regular session once a year in the month of November, and when necessary it shall hold emergency sessions.

Any member of the League, or the secretary-general of the League, shall have the right to request the holding of an emergency session and to call for such a session if the holding of such a session is agreed upon by a majority of the members.

Every regular or emergency session shall be preceded by a preliminary meeting of the Political Affairs and Defense Council.

3. A meeting of the Council shall be considered valid if it is attended by two-thirds of the members, and the chairmanship of each session of the Supreme Council shall be rotated among its members in accordance with the alphabetical order of the names of the nations.

4. The sessions of the Supreme Council shall be held in the headquarters of the League, but it shall be permissible to hold the sessions at a place other than the headquarters [if necessary].

Article 8

The Supreme Council shall particularly undertake the following:

1. Adoption of a strategy for joint Arab action in all realms, and determination of the objectives of such joint action.

2. Adoption of a policy of defense and security for the Arab world, and providing for the requirements of such a policy.

3. Adoption of joint Arab plans and projects, and establishment of the budgets of such plans and projects.

4. Adoption of the principles of cooperation with [other] nations and with international organizations.

5. Dealing with Arab disputes and striving toward solving them by peaceful means, and examining any international situation which infringes upon the security and peace of the Arab world.

6. Appointment of the League's secretary-general and determination of his privileges, salary, and compensation.

7. Election of the members of the Arab Court of Justice and determination of their salaries and compensation.

8.. Ratification of the League's amended Charter.

9. Determination of the location of the session.

10. Establishment of its bylaws.

When necessary, the Supreme Council shall have the right to entrust one of the League's principal bodies with whatever tasks it deems appropriate.

11. Appointment of the members of the League's General Supervisory Commission.

Article 9

1. Every member of the Council shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the Council shall be made on the basis of a two-thirds vote of its members, but shall be on the basis of a majority vote of the members when making precedural decisions and recommendations.

3. The decisions of the Council shall be binding on all member states.

Article 10

1. The Political Affairs and Defense Council shall be composed of the foreign ministers of the member states. It shall include the ministers of defense when military matters are being discussed, and the ministers of information when information and media matters are being discussed.

2. If a foreign minister is unable to attend, then his nation must be represented by another of its ministers.

3. The Council shall hold two regular annual sessions, with the first one to be held in March and the second one to be held in September.

4. The Council shall hold emergency sessions on the basis of a decision by the Supreme Council, a decision by the [Political Affairs and Defense] Council itself, or a request by a member of the League or by the secretary-general which is agreed to by a majority of the member states, subject to the provisions of Article 35 of this Charter.

5. If armed agression has occurred against one of the member states of the League, then the Political Affairs and Defense Council shall meet immediately if requested to do so by the nation which is the victim of the aggression, by any other member of the League, or by the secretary-general.

6. A meeting of the Council shall be considered valid when attended by two-thirds of its members, but it shall be sufficient to have the attendance of a majority of the members in the case specified in Paragraph 5 of this Article.

7. The members of the Council shall rotate the chairmanship of each regular session of the Council in accordance with the alphabetical order of the names of the nations.

8. The sessions of the Council shall be held in the headquarters of the League, but it shall be permissible to hold the sessions at a place other than the headquarters [if necessary].

[13 Jan 81 p 19]

[Text] Article 11

[In addition to implementing the decisions of the Supreme Council, the Political Affairs and Defense Council shall, in particular, engage in the following tasks:]

A. The Political Realm

1. Creation of a strategy of joint Arab action and determination of the objectives of such joint action in the political realm.

2. Creation of a policy for defending the Arab world and its security, and providing for the requirements of such a policy.

3. Creation of plans and taking measures to coordinate relations between the member states and other nations in order to achieve the objectives of the League.

4. Creation of foundations for coordinating the information and media policies of the member states, and setting a uniform information and media policy with regard to basic Arab national issues.

5. Examination of disputes between the member states and making recommendations an taking decisions and measures concerning such disputes in accordance with the provisions of Section IV of this Charter.

6. Taking disciplinary measures against nations which violate the decisions of the Political Affairs and Defense Council concerning the settlement of Arab disputes by peaceful means.

7. Taking measures to guarantee the implementation of the decisions of the Arab Court of Justice.

8. Encouraging studies and making recommendations concerning the development of Arab international law which would promote the objectives of the League and contribute toward the establishment of a new international order.

9. Striving to guarantee human rights and freedoms and striving to establish an Arab Human Rights Committee.

10. Creation of plans which insure that the international community is acquainted with the Arab nation, its cultural values, and its heritage.

11. Establishment of the League's budget and determination of each member state's share of it.

12. Establishment of its own bylaws.

13. Offering recommendations to the Supreme Council concerning requests for membership.

14. Offering recommendations to the Supreme Council concerning the measures stipulated by Article 5 of this Charter.

15. Undertaking any task entrusted to it by the Supreme Council.

B. The Realm of Defense

1. Creation of plans which insure the protection of the security of the Arab world and which provide for the means of implementing the plans.

2. Establishment of bodies which deal with defense matters, determination of their tasks, ratification of their plans, and determination of the forces and means necessary for the implementation of the defense policy.

3. Examination of disputes between one or more member states of the League and another nation, and taking measures and making recommendations concerning such disputes.

4. Taking political, economic, and military measures, as well as other measures, against an aggressor nation in accordance with the provisions of Section V of this Charter.

5. Creation of an Arab military industries policy and securing integration in this realm.

6. Creation of a policy of cooperation and integration among the member states in the military realm.

7. Establishment and utilization of Arab security forces.

8. Undertaking any other task entrusted to it by the Supreme Council.

Article 12

1. Each member of the Council shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the Council shall be made on the basis of a two-thirds vote of its members, but it shall be sufficient to have a majority vote of the members when making procedural decisions and recommendations.

3. Decisions of the Council shall be binding on all member states.

The Economic and Social Integration and Development Council

Article 13

1. The Economic and Social Integration and Development Council shall be composed of the appropriate ministers of the member states.

2. The Council shall hold two annual sessions, with the first one to be held in February and the second one to be held in October.

3. The Council shall hold emergency sessions on the basis of a decision by the Supreme Council, a decision by the [Economic and Social Integration and Development Council] itself, or a request by a member of the League or by the secretary-general which is agreed to by a majority of the member states.

4. A meeting of the Council shall be considered valid when attended by two-thirds of its members.

5. The members of the Council shall rotate the chairmanship of each regular session in accordance with the alphabetical order of the names of the nations.

6. The sessions of the Council shall be held in the headquarters of the League, but it shall be permissible to hold them at a place other than the headquarters [if necessary].

Article 14

1. The Council shall have the responsibility of setting policies which have the objective of achieving Arab economic and social development which will consolidate the control of the Arab nations over their natural wealth and resources and which have the objective of utilizing human resources for the good of the Arab nation.

2. The Council shall strive to encourage all forms of economic and social integration and to raise the standard of living in the Arab world in order to promote the realization of Arab unity.

Article 15

In addition to implementing the decisions of the Supreme Council, the [Economic and Social Integration and Development] Council shall, in particular, engage in the folwowing tasks:

1. Creation of a strategy of joint Arab action and determination of the objectives of such joint action in the realm of economic and social integration and development.

2. Creation of joint Arab plans and projects, and examination of the budgets concerning such plans and projects.

3. Coordination of developmental plans of the member states, and preparation of a developmental plan for the Arab world.

4. Creation of policies and taking steps necessary for the development of Arab human resources.

5. Creation of policies and determination of the means necessary for scientific and technical development in the Arab world.

6. Creation of policies and plans required by the security of the Arab world in both the economic and social realms.

7. Holding of conferences necessary for the consolidation of economic and social coordination, integration, and links between the member states.

8. Creation of policies nnd taking measures concerning organizing the transfer of individuals and capital from one member state to another and concerning the achievement of equality among Arab workers and investors in the member states.

9. Creation of policies and plans necessary for hastening development in the least developed member states.

10. Determination of the role of the member states in achieving a new international economic order and coordination of their positions with regard to economic and social issues which are brought up at international gatherings, with regard to international groups, and when negotiating with them.

11. Preserving the identity of the Arab nation, revitalizing its cultural heritage, and striving to develop the culture of Arab civilization.

12. Supervision of specialized agencies in accordance with the provisions of Section VI of this Charter.

13. Establishment of its own bylaws.

14. Undertaking any other task entrusted to it by the Supreme Council.

Article 16

1. Each member of the Council shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the Council shall be made on the basis of a two-thirds vote of its members, but it shall be sufficient to have a majority vote of the members when making procedural decisions and recommendations.

3. Decisions of the Council shall be binding for all member states.

Article 17

Within the framework of the League there shall be established a council which represents non-government Arab unions and organizations, and the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council shall set the bylaws for this council, and shall determine the details of its relations with the League as well as its methods of contributing toward the achievement of its objectives.

The Arab Court of Justice

Article 18

The Arab Court of Justice shall be the judicial body of the League of Arab Nations and shall act in accordance with its Constitution which is appended to this Charter and which is considered to be an inalienable part of it.

Article 19

All of the members of the League shall be parties in the Constitution of the Arab Court of Justice.

Article 20

The authority of the Court shall be binding on all members who accept it.

Article 21

Execution of decisions by the Arab Court of Justice shall be mandatory, and each party in a dispute shall carry out such decisions in a spirit of good will. If one of the parties refuses to do this, the other party shall have the right to seek

recourse from the Political Affairs and Defense Council, and this Council shall take measures to guarantee that the decision [made by the Court] is carried out.

Article 22

Any of the principal bodies of the League, and the specialized agencies set up by the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council, shall have the right to request the Arab Court of Justice to render an advisory opinion concerning any legal matter brought to them, on the condition that this matter not concern a case being brought before the Court.

The Secretariat-General

Article 23

The Secretariat-General shall consist of a secretary-general, two deputy secretaries-general, one of whom shall be for political affairs and defense and the other for economic and social integration and development, affairs assistant secretaries-general, and a sufficient number of officials.

Article 24

1. The Supreme Council of the League shall appoint the secretary-general for a period of 4 years, renewable once unless opposed by the Council. [In such a case] the Council shall accept his resignation and dismiss him from office.

2. In case the secretary-general is dismissed from office, the Supreme Council of the League shall, during the same dismissal session, appoint a new secretary-general.

3. If for any other reason the position of secretary-general has been vacated, the senior member of the two deputy secretaries-general shall temporarily assume his responsibilities, and the Supreme Council of the League, during its next regular or emergency session, shall appoint a secretary-genreal.

Article 25

The secretary-general shall be the highest official in the Secretariat-General and shall represent the League in its dealings with other parties.

Article 26

1. The member states shall accredit permanent representatives to the League, which will participate with the Secretariat-General, in the preparation of the meetings of the League's Councils, and will insure the implementation of their decisions during their recess.

2. The secretary-general shall have the right to accredit League representatives to other countries and to international organizations.

Article 27

In addition to his responsibilities stipulated in the other Articles of this Charter, the secretary-general shall undertake the following:

1. Carry out the tasks entrusted to him by the principal bodies of the League.

2. Prepare proposals, plans, and studies which are required by the business engaged in by the League's principal bodies.

3. Insure the implementation of the decisions made by the League's principal bodies.

4. Present an annual report concerning the League's activities in which the League's achievements are reviewed. He shall have the right to include in this report his opinions and proposals concerning the situation in the Arab world, the international situation, and his ideas concerning joint Arab action.

5. Prepare integral plans and programs for joint Arab action and insure their implementation after they have been approved. This shall be done in cooperation with the specialized Arab agencies.

6. Prepare the League's budget.

Article 28

The secretary-general shall appoint his deputies, assistant secretaries-general, and the officials of the League. However, the appointment of his deputy for political affairs and defense shall be subject to the approval of the Political Affairs and Defense Council, and the appointment of his deputy for economic and social integration and development affairs shall be subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council.

Article 29

1. Neither the secretary-general, nor his deputies, nor the assistant secretaries-general, nor the [other] officials of the League shall, when performing their duties, have the right to request or receive instructions from any government or any authority outside the scope of the League. They must also refrain from engaging in any activity which would be detrimental to their positions as officials responsible only to the League.

2. The members of the League shall commit themselves to respect the independence of the secretary-general, his deputies, his assistant secretaries-general, and the officials of the League, and shall refrain from attempting to influence them during the time that they are engaging in their responsibilities, and shall support them in the performance of their duties.

2. The secretary-general, or whoever is authorized by him, shall establish which internal organizations of the Secretariat-General may not be allocated funds in addition to what has been approved in the budget.

[14 Jan 81 p 19]

[Text] [Section IV. Settlement of Arab Disputes]

[Article 31]

1. The member states are obligated to settle any dispute detrimental to their security, economic and social interests by peaceful means according to the provisions of this Charter, and within the framework of the League before having recourse to other international organizations.

2. If the parties in the dispute have not been able to agree upon a mean of settling their dispute, then the Supreme Council and the Political Affairs and Defense Council shall recommend a peaceful mean to be followed in order to settle the dispute.

Article 32

1. When attempting to solve disputes between nations, whatever the nature of the disputes are, the Political Affairs and Defense Council shall seek the assistance of the Committee for Peaceful Settlement of Arab Disputes. When necessary, the Council, upon instructions from the Committee, shall establish special committees to support it in its responsibility for settling the dispute.

2. The Committee for Peaceful Settlement of Arab Disputes, the chairman of which shall be the secretary-general, shall have three members who shall be appointed, based on a decision by the Council, for a period of 2 years. This period of 2 years may be renewed.

3. The Committee shall meet when requested by the secretary-general.

Article 33

1. The Committee for Peaceful Settlement of Arab Disputes shall deal with any dispute, of whatever nature, which might arise among the member states of the League, or shall deal with any situation which might lead to a dispute among them. The Committee shall undertake all possible initiatives to solve or avoid such disputes.

2. If the Committee is successful in its efforts [to settle a dispute], the secretary-general shall forward a report to this effect to the Political Affairs and Defense Council.

3. If the Committee is not successful in its efforts [to settle a dispute], the secretary-general shall call upon the Council to immediately convene in order to examine the matter, on the basis of the report which was sent to it by the Committee.

Article 34

The nations engaged in a dispute shall be obligated to respect the temporary measures decided upon by the Political Affairs and Defense Council, and the Council shall take whatever measures it deems necessary against whoever does not respect its temporary measures. The other member states shall refrain from any action which might complicate the situation.

Article 35

If the Committee for Peaceful Settlement of Arab Disputes is not successful in its efforts [to settle a dispute], then the Political Affairs and Defense Council, before taking measures provided for in the following Article, shall call upon the disputing parties to take whatever measures the Council deems appropriate in order to stop the dispute and have the parties resort to peaceful means of solving the dispute in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

Article 36

1. The Political Affairs and Defense Council shall decide upon measures which do not require the use of the Arab Security Forces.

2. If the Political Affairs and Defense Council feels that the measures provided for in the previous Paragraph are not sufficient to achieve its purpose, then it shall take measures to end an armed conflict and to separate the forces of the nations engaging in the dispute. These measures can include the use of Arab Security Forces.

3. When the decision has been made to use the Arab Security Forces to end a dispute, the secretary-general shall be responsible for implementing this decision, and the forces used for this purpose shall be subordinate to the secretary-general and shall receive their orders from him.

Article 37

In the case of every dispute, the Political Affairs and Defense Council shall provide the Supreme Council with a report concerning the matter and shall have the right to request that this Council hold an emergency session.

Section V. Joint Arab Defense Measures

Article 38

1. The member states, based on a proposal by the Political Affairs and Defense Council and a decision by the Supreme Council, shall be committed to put at the disposal of the League the necessary armed forces, assistance, and facilities in order to carry out joint defense plans.

2. The task of commanding the Arab armed forces which will act in accordance with the joint plans shall be entrusted to the command bodies established by the Political Affairs and Defense Council.

Article 39

1. An act of aggression or a threat thereof, by a non-member of the League, the Political Affairs and Defense Council shall immediately hold an emergency session in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of this Charter. This shall be done in order to study the situation and in order to take the necessary political, economic, and military measures.

2. Nothing in this Charter infringes upon the right of self defense of the nation against which aggression has been committed until joint Arab defense measures are taken, agreeable to the injured nation.

Section VI. Relations Between the League and the Specialized Agencies Working Within the Framework of the League

Article 40

1. Specialized Arab organizations which work in one or more sectors of joint Arab action in the economic and social realm, regardless of their names or the charters which established them, shall be considered specialized agencies of the League of Arab Nations if the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council also considers them as such.

2. The specialized agencies shall operate in accordance with the general Arab strategy prescribed by the principal bodies of the League.

Article 41

1. The specialized agencies shall be linked to the League, and coordination shall be established between each of them as well as between them and the League, through the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council.

2. The principles for the linking and coordination of these organizations referred to in the previous Paragraph shall be determined on the basis of a decision issued by the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council after taking into account the opinion of the Coordination Committee, which shall be composed of the secretary-general as chairman and the executive heads of these specialized agencies.

Article 42

1. New specialized Arab agencies shall not be established except with the approval of the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council.

2. The Supreme Council shall have the right to recommend merging or abolishing specialized Arab agencies whenever this is deemed necessary by the joint Arab interest, based on the opinion of the Economic and Social Integration and Development Council.

Article 43

The League and its specialized agencies shall adopt uniform regulations concerning fiscal and accounting matters as well as personnel matters with regard to their officials.

Article 44

If any provision found in the charter of any specialized Arab organization is in conflict with the provisions of this Section, then these provisions shall prevail.

Section VII. Immunities and Privileges

Article 45

1. The League and its specialized agencies shall enjoy, in the territory of each member state, the legal status, immunities, and privileges required in order to achieve their aims and perform their functions.

2. The representatives of the League member states and specialized agencies, as well as their officials and experts, shall enjoy immunities and privileges in accordance with an agreement made between the member states.

3. Relations between the League and its headquarters nation shall be regulated by an agreement which shall be made between them.

4. Until the conditions have been fulfilled for executing the two agreements mentioned above in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, the members, officials, and experts of the League shall enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities when exercising their duties, and the League's buildings shall be inviolable.

Section VIII. Miscellaneous Provisions

Article 46

1. The League shall form an Administrative Court for the purpose of deciding disputes which arise between the Secretariat-General of the League and the general administrative offices of the specialized agencies, on the one hand, and those working in these organizations, on the other hand.

2. The Political Affairs and Defense Council shall create the Constitution of this Court and shall appoint its members.

Article 47

The Secretariat-General shall be informed of treaties and agreements which the member states of the League conclude with each other and with other nations.

Article 48

Subject to the provisions of Article 103 of the United Nations Charter, if the commitments of the members of the League, in accordance with its Charter, conflict with any commitment they have undertaken according to any other international agreement, then their commitments in accordance with the Charter of the League shall prevail.

Article 49

No member state, 30 days after having been informed by the Secretariat-General that the total amount of money that it is in debt to the League's budget is in excess of

the [total] amount corresponding to its shares for the current fiscal year and the two fiscal years directly preceding it, shall be permitted to vote in any of the meetings of the Councils, unless the Supreme Council decides otherwise.

Article 50

Except for the cases stipulated in this Charter, a majority vote shall be sufficient for making valid decisions concerning the following matters:

1. Personnel Administration.

2. Establishing the bylaws for each of the Councils and for the Secretariat-General.

3. Approving the League's budget.

Article 51

1. Any member state, and the secretary-general, shall have the right to request that this Charter be amended.

2. It shall not be permitted to examine a request for amendment [of the Charter] unless the relevant request is sent to the member states by the Secretariat-General at least 6 months before being presented to the Council.

3. It shall not be permitted to introduce basic changes in a proposed amendment of the type referred in the previous Paragraph unless the text of these suggested changes has been sent to the member states by the Secretariat-General at least 3 months before the amendment is presented to the Council.

4. Amendment of the Charter shall be decided by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Supreme Council.

Article 52

An amendment [of the Charter] shall enter into effect 1 month after the secretary-general has received ratification documents from two-thirds of the member states.

9468
CSO: 4802/408

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION CELEBRATED IN PROVINCES

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 3 May 81 p 4

[Text]

PROVINCES, May 3 (Bakhtar).— In honour of the third anniversary of the Saur Revolution, the mobile audio-visual unit of the Afghan Films of the Information and Culture Ministry screened some documentary and aristic films on Saur 7 (April 27) at the Lashkargah city centre of the Helmand province.

In addition to the party members and Government employees, thousands of the residents of the city and the district saw the films.

Army officers, soldiers, police, party cadres and activists, Government employees and hundreds of inhabitants of the Gardiz city centre of the Paktia province and its district marked the anniversary, expressing "all-out support for the national revolution".

At the outset, Dastagir, secretary of the provincial committee, spoke on the "importance and value of the irreversible Saur revolution in the social and political life of the oppressed people" and congratulated them on the occasion.

The Governor and the commander of the military garrison of the province spoke in detail on the aims of the Saur Revolution, especially its new and evolutionary phase.

Some army officers and soldiers spoke to welcome the anniversary and pledged "determination to defend the people's sovereignty and territorial integrity and the gains of the Saur Revolution and to struggle to crush the counter-revolutionaries". The function ended with a concert and playing of the national anthem.

TAKHAR

Army officers and soldiers of the operative unit of the Takhar province, in a function at the headquarter of the unit, marked the anniversary and expressed "readiness for the implementation of the gains of the revolution, especially its new and evolutionary phase".

At the outset, some verses from the Holy Koran

were read, followed by the DRA national anthem. Bari Rostee, the secretary of the provincial committee, spoke on the "success of Saur Revolution and unbreakable unity of the patriotic forces and other toilers".

The function was attended by members of the provincial committee, employees, party activists, soldiers and police, the Governor, the co-secretary of the provincial committee and the command of the unit.

Similarly, on the eve of the anniversary, a branch of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society, at the initiative of the Democratic Organisation for Afghan Youth, was opened by Dr Khaddad Bushermal, secretary of the provincial committee of Nangarhar, at the teachers' training institute of the province last Thursday.

The secretary of the provincial committee and the president of the southern zone of the DOAY spoke on the good relations between the two countries.

The function was attended by the Governor, the command of military devision N. 11, the political chief of the division, the police command, members of the provincial committee, the DOAY the psovincial committee of trade unions, The DOAW and the Komsomol organisation.

Members of the provincial committee, heads of the the Government departments, employees and thousands of residents of the Pule Khomri district of the Baghlan province last Thursday laid wreaths of flowers on the tombs of the martyrs and prayed for them.

Shafiqullah Todaee, secretary of the provincial committee, spoke of the "inspiring struggle of the PDPA and the heroic struggle of the brave martyrs".

The Governor and some people of the province also spoke.

The tombs were illuminated, and epitaphs were engraved on them.

CSO: 4920

GOVERNMENT BUILDING MOSQUE IN JABULSARAG DISTRICT

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 3 May 81 p 1

[Text]

CHAREKAR, May 3 (Bakhtar)—The cornerstone of a congregational mosque was laid last Thursday at the Ashaq Abad subdistrict of the Jabulsarag district by the president of the Jabulsarag cement factory.

The co-secretary of the provincial committees and some elders, clergy and residents of the district were present.

The mosque will cover half a jerib of land and will be built with the cooperation of the factory and the residents of the district. It will have room for 200 worshippers.

At the ceremony the president of the factory spoke on the objectives of the party and the Government and the respect of the Government and party for holy Islam.

In response, Mawlawi Nuaz Mohammad, on behalf of others, expressed gratitude for the aims of the party and the Government and pledged "all-out support for the revolutionary Government".

Also, some workers and farmers thanked the Government for the construction of the mosque. They also expressed readiness to cooperate in building the mosque.

CSO: 4920

ALGERIA, JAPAN TRADE OUTLINED

London 8 DAYS in English 25 Apr 81 p 37

[Article by Howard Schissel]

[Text]

JAPAN'S EFFORTS to intensify trade links with Algeria were capped at the beginning of April by the visit to Algiers of a high-powered mission from the Japanese employers' association, the Keidanren, led by Yoshihiro Inayama, chairman of Nippon Steel. The delegation, which also included representatives from C. Itoh, Mitsubishi, Kajima, Hitachi, Japan Gasoline Company (JGC) and Sumitomo, met with senior Algerian government officials including Prime Minister Mohammed Abdelghani and Mohammed Haj Yala, the finance minister.

The Japanese industrialists, suffering from protectionist barriers against their goods and services in a growing number of western nations, are turning towards the Arab world and Africa for new trade outlets. Algeria is judged to be one of the most promising markets in view of its present Five Year Plan (1980-84), which allocates about $100bn for investment outlay, a third of which is earmarked for the industrial sphere.

Tokyo has spared little effort since 1979 to upgrade its economic ties with the Chadli government. For example, for the first time last year Japanese firms participated in the annual Algiers trade fair.

The Japanese are counting on the quality of their goods and services, as well as their often unbeatable prices, to broaden their presence in Algeria. Unlike many western countries, the Japanese do not have a colonial [illegible] to overcome and they are not averse to building up a relationship based on equality between the participating partners.

The French-language daily *El Moudjahid* noted in an editorial comment that: 'The search for new outlets for Japanese products in the Third World, and more particularly in Algeria, could have mutually beneficial prospects for both sides if the relationship was envisaged from the viewpoint of mutual satisfaction.'

So far, the Algerians have been quite satisfied with the Japanese performance in their country. Japanese firms built the gas-gathering system at the Hassi R'Mel gasfields in c[illegible]harn, a refinery at Arzew, a cement works at El Asnam and the extension of the El Hadjar steel complex. In addition, 2,000 Japanese work in Algeria and a dozen Japanese firms have permanent offices in Algiers.

The Japanese have shown great innovative skill in approaching the reputedly difficult Algerian market, much to the chagrin of western businessmen. 'The Japanese are quick to seize opportunities and tend to be more imaginative than many established western firms,' commented a French businessman with long experience in Algeria.

Japanese efforts are bearing fruit. After sliding from third to fifth position on the list of Algeria's trading partners in 1979 — behind the US, France, West Germany and

Italy — the Japanese regained the number three slot last year. Japanese-Algerian trade fell from Algerian Dinars 3.2bn ($830m) in 1978 to AD1.6bn in 1979, only to climb to AD3.6bn in 1980.

Intent on supplying their huge energy needs, the Japanese signed a five-year contract in 1980 for the annual purchase of 4m tonnes of condensates, small amounts of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and some refined products. This deal brought bilateral trade virtually into balance in 1980 after several years of deficit on the Algerian side.

The Japanese are also adapting to the changing needs of the Algerian economy. To meet the new emphasis on consumer goods, the Japanese were able to supply 8,500 Honda motor vehicles to Algeria last year, and hope to double this in 1981. Moving away from traditional exports like heavy machinery, ships, iron and steel and electrical equipment, the Japanese are seeking new markets in such high priority areas for Algerian economic planners as light industry, water resource development, housing schemes, health care and public transport.

To encourage economic links, the Algerian finance minister, Muhammed Yala, suggested to the Japanese delegation that Tokyo open up a credit line on favourable terms. Given Algeria's strong financial position and its solid prospects for the future, the Japanese government will probably make a substantial increase in its financial exposure in coming years.

This could be an important factor in favour of Japanese firms in the intense competition for the larger industrial and infrastructural projects now in the pipeline. These include the construction of the Jijel integrated steel complex, a cement works at Tebessa, a tyre plant, a gas recuperation system at Zarzaitine and a series of factories making prefabricated housing units.

CSO: 4820

BRIEFS

ALGERIAN-SOVIET ENERGY TALKS--Moscow, 11 May (APS)--Talks between Algeria and the Soviet Union on energetic cooperation are going on in Moscow, under the respective leaderships of Mr Belkacem Nabi, CC member and minister of energy and petrochemical industries, and Mr Morozov, head of the Soviet External [Economic] Relations Committee (C.K.E.S.) in the presence of the Algerian ambassador to the USSR. The two parties examined common projects already realized and debated the five-year plan projects retained. They also reviewed possibilities to develop and diversify commercial exchanges in the field of energy between the two countries. The talks are taking place in a friendly and auspicious atmosphere and are likely to result in wide [word indistinct] for the development of energetic bilateral cooperation between Algeria and the USSR. Mr Belkacem Nabi's talks with Mr (?Zhuravlev), vice-minister of Soviet external commerce, focused on commercial exchanges and the possibility to extend them. The Algerian minister is to have a series of talks with other high ranking Soviet officials. These talks are being held at the eve of the adoption of the Soviet five-year-plan and at the beginning of the Algerian's. [Text] [LD111644 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 11 May 81]

BANGLADESH, ALGERIAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION--Bangladesh and Algeria have agreed to implement an eight-point working plan toward further development of bilateral cooperation between the two brotherly countries. The agreement was reached between visiting Bangladesh Foreign Minister Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq and his Algerian counterpart Mohamed Ben Yahia in Algiers recently. The two countries, under the working plan, will exchange delegations to examine economic and commercial prospects in conformity with the Algeria-Bangladesh trade agreement signed in the Algerian capital on October 14, 1976. The two ministers thought that the supply of jute by the Bangladesh jute export corporation to Algeria under the recently concluded 5-year agreement will contribute to the development of trade between the two countries. The two foreign ministers agreed to exchange experience and information between the two countries on exploration and development of natural gas and organize expert-level meetings to identify possibilities of cooperation in the energy and agricultural sectors. [Text] [BK141652 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 May 81]

CSO: 4820/344

MINISTRY OF ROADS, TRANSPORTATION ISSUES PROGRESS REPORT

Part I - Roads' Implementation

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 29 Apr 81 p 3

[Text]

(PART – I)

Accumulation and appreciation of files and implementation of different stages, relating to change in the cadre of service for 6,000 official and unofficial employees according to the article 150 of the Employment Law of the country.

2- Provision and regulation of explanation of duties and Detailed Organization of provincial units and its submission to the Employment Bureau.

3- Implementation of various phases and issuance of 1,250 retirements and 83 retrenchment orders.

4- Consideration of applications and payment necessary housing loans to 177 employees.

5- Implementation of different phases, relating to 177 official probationary appointments and 34 cases of retrenchment.

Directive of Roads and Transportation:

1- Evaluation studies and survey measures and provision of 1,536 projects, relating to rural roads, for a length of 20,842 km and the total expenditure of 25 billion Rials.

2- Start work on 1,318 rural roads measuring 16,502 km from which a total of 4,687 km has already been completed and has been put into operation. From a total of 11,815 km, under construction, 70 percent of construction works has been implemented.

3- Evaluation studies and survey measures and provision of 242 projects of lateral roads measuring 7,335 km with proposed expenditure of Rials 23 billion.

4- Road construction for 195 lateral roads with the length of 5,295 km from which the construction measures of 720 km has already been completed and has been put into operation and the rest (4,572 km) is under construction with a 40 per cent measure.

5- Provision and design of 261 bridges with a toal area of 69,094 m2.

6- Construction works of 244 bridges with the total area of 62,362 m2 have already started and 84 bridges with the total area of 17,643 m2 have been put into operation.

7- Provision of starting of construction works, relating to 62 cases of asphalt coating of gravel and asphalt roads with the total length of 4,642 km from which a total of 1,602 km has been completed and the rest, measuring 3,040 km is under construction measures.

8- Road construction of Oroumieh's lake, which so far, a total of 5,367 m and amounting the capacity of 2,907,510 m3 has already been implemented and the rest is in progress.

9- Start of construction works, relating to the connecting roads in the south of Tehran and creation of its lateral roads which had a 60 per cent progress (26 km).

Technical and Road construction:

1- Completion and inauguration of Kamdj-Qazvin highway and the completion of laying two more lanes to the existing four lanes Tehran-Karaj highway.

2- Completion and inauguration of Hamedan-Bamenadj main road and tunnels of Alavetabad's head.

3- Completion and inauguration of Pirouzkoh-Damavand which will be commissioned during the current month.

4- Completion of the main road of Mashad-Zahedan from which only 80 km has not been completed yet and approximately 500 km of this road has been coated and asphalted after the revolution.

5- Completion of the main road of Kerman-Zahedan of which 30 km has not been completed yet.

A- The roads which temporarily delivered on the mentioned period in the different regions of the country:

1- Main roads	764.5 km
2- Lateral roads	820 km

B- Roads, about to be delivered and at present are in operation:

1- Free way	84 km
2- Main road	924 km
3- Lateral road	368 km

4- Iron bridges of Damavand-Zirab and Pirouzkuh, 7 bridges.

5-The construction of Bamargallah's bridge.

Transport affairs:

1- Truck production evaluation, studies and the maximum use of the existing trucks and the relevant needs of the country which are still in progress.

2- Organizing of different missions and the necessary considerations, relating to establishment of committees in the port in Chabbahar region.

3- Studies on the issue of clearance receipt from the international transportation companies and using the ministry's specialists to determine illegal receipts of clearance taxes by these companies.

4- Compilation of addresses and nature of transport companies.

5- Appointment of drivers and operators for loader, bulldozers and trailer trucks in lieu of the increased necessity in the transportation sectors owing to the Iraqi imposed war upon Iran.

6- Supply of war materials to the battle fronts.

The Directorate of Technical Supervision:

During the mentioned period, various construction measures in the field of free roads, lateral roads and rural roads with the width of 5,6,8,11,7 and 26 m have already implemented by the Directorate of Technical Supervision. The work done are as follows:

Temporary delivered	1,234 km
Delivered	4,440 km

At the same period of time a contract of 2,090 km of main and lateral and rural road has been signed between the DTS and the various contractors. The other bridges and waterscapes have been erected by the DTS.

RAILWAY DIRECTORATE:

1- Construction works and electrification of Tabriz-Julfa railway line which will be completed in the near future.
2- Construction works of the Julfa's custom are about to be completed.
3- Isfahan's railway station construction work will be ended in the near future.

4- Executive measures of Bafegh-Bandar Abbass railway lines are to be launched.

5- The lateral railway line construction measures of Zabzab to sand and grit mines are about to be finished.

6- Complexes, relating to the railway sleeper tar factory of Andimeshk which will be ended in the near future.

Part II - Railway Construction

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 30 Apr 81 p 3

[Text]

(PART – II)

RAILWAY DIRECTORATE:
1- Construction works and electrification of Tabriz-Julfa railway line which will be completed in the near future.
2- Construction works of the Julfa's custom are about to be completed.
3- Isfahan's railway station construction work will be ended in the near future.
4- Executive measures of Bafegh-Bandar Abbas' railway lines to be launched.
5- The lateral railway line construction measures of Zabzab to sand and grit mines are about to be finished.
6- Complexes, relating to the railway sleeper tar factory of Andimeshk which will be ended in the near future.

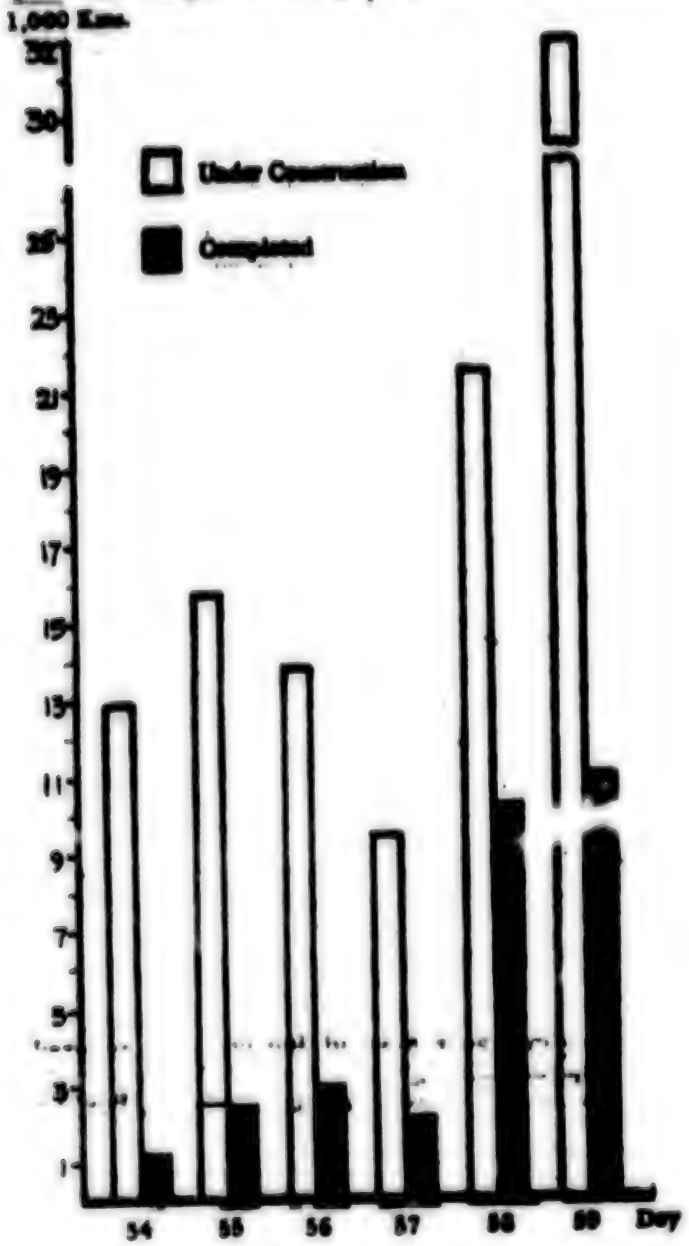
The State Railway department of Iran:
A- Maintenance and refurnishing of railway coaches.
1- Garmsar-Bafgan railway measuring 400 km.
2- Tehran-Qazvin-Qazaghan 500 km.
3- Electrification of Tabriz-Julfa railway line 146 km.
4- Southern railway, between Andimeshk and Ahwaz, the length of 90 km. and between Isfahan and Arak with the length of 40 km completed.
5- Provision of 25 reservoirs with various capacities, supplied to the battle fronts.

The State Railway Department of Iran, reconstructed and coated a total of 3,676 km of railway line during the mentioned period.

The distance, covered by electrified diesel locomotives 25,669,979 km.

Loaded various goods excluding the locomotive's weight 5.2283568 km.

Apparent comparison of projects, under construction and completed during the years 1354 - 1359.



PORTS AND SHIPPING CENTER:

1- The amount of the transported cargo in the ports of Khorramshahr, Khomeini, Abadan, Bushahr, Abbas, Amali and Nowshahr is as follows:

	Clearance	Loading	Transport of goods in the port
(tons 1000)	12,532	987	129,100

2- Installation and commissioning of 800-telephone center of the Bandar-e-Imam Khomeini.

3- Completion of executive measures of the coastal wall of the Amali port.

4- Construction works of the office of the Assali port were carried out, measuring 6,000 Sqm and 75 per cent of the project has been completed.
5- Construction measures, relating to the eastern dock of Nowshahr port through the Nowshahr's Construction Crusade with the area of 15,000 m2. 60 per cent of the construction works have progressed.
6- Despite difficulties, caused by the Iraqi imposed war and economic sanctions, construction works for the establishment of a complex in Bandar Abbas have been continuing and at present approximately 21,000 tons of goods are cleared and loaded every day in this and the old port.
7- Construction of 10 earth piers of Khomeini port have been completed and delivered in 59.5.1
8- Sea projects and land measures of the first phase of the Bandar-e-Khomeini were completely finished by 59.8.19 and all the jetties have been delivered.

Comparison table of the Islamic Republic of Iran with other developing countries in relation to the density of population and in ratio to roads.

Country	Length Kms. of Roads	Area in Sq. Kms.	Density Of Roads	Population Person
Iran	60,076	12,000**	4/2	34,000
Afghanistan	17,291	647,497	2/7	17,000
Turkey	66,842	780,576	7/8	35,292
Thailand	20,634	514,000	4	34,000
Philippines	78,724	300,000	23/2	36,750
Germany	440,059	247,973	177/8	60,681
Italy	286,318	301,220	94/7	53,057

*Figures relating to Iran are for the year 1354 figures for other countries are for the year 1970.
**Density of roads per 100 Sq. M. (area).
***Excluding desert regions.

(Source United Nations)

Statistics of Roads under Construction from 1354-1359

Type of Road Kms.	Year 1354	Year 1355	Year 1356	Year 1357	Post Revolution 1358	1359
Freeway	308	321	358	374	408	488
Main Road	4,998	5259	5085	2575	4920	5944
Lateral Roads	4,968	5254	5220	3051	5029	5123
Reconstruction	2,514	5784	2869	1684	2626	[illegible]
[illegible]	-	-	-	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	12,780	15,826	13,316	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

(PART – III)

Statistical figures of load and passenger transport and net income of the State Railway of Iran, from the month of Farvardin to Shahrivar (the first six months) of 1358.

Month	No. of passengers	Income thru passengers	Cargo in tons	Income thru cargo haul	goods haul in tons	Income thru goods haulage
Farvardin	606472	262041309	4069	4245585	444153	599628106
Ordibehesht	492476	219128491	1280	4777064	480393	591167620
Khordad	472927	224935776	1495	4825198	539426	580036322
Tir	641260	210394821	1235	4825178	548735	658955062
Mordad	467866	237617494	1148	5851315	523525	643996829
Shahrivar	646987	312157529	1742	7109365	496287	824395901
Total	2327998	1566275420	10969	31623705	3022519	3898179840

	Total Revenue gained Rls.	Total discounts and facilities Rls.	Net income Rls.	Person/Km	Ton/Km
Farvardin	23341212	6924714	592703292	263905131	221292279
Ordibehesht	367262065	10890388	580277232	232511846	233269003
Khordad	350275347	7234095	572802227	254099347	246055887
Tir	342735064	6114569	652740494	235365786	258350536
Mordad	400528020	13062936	630922892	285244208	195813500
Shahrivar	515129007	19832887	714563015	312517361	259217308
Total	1999270715	64060589	3744019253	1684643579	1414098512

Statistical figures of load and passenger transport and net income of the State Railway of Iran, from the month of Mehr to Esfand (the second six months) of 1358.

Month	No. of passengers	Income thru passengers	Cargo in tons	Income thru cargo haul	goods haul in tons
Mehr	484489	232402841	2075	9476017	506231
Aban	404479	174885027	2092	6583523	541112
Azar	424907	190617482	1811	5221182	491903
Dey	464200	213312940	1351	6214505	513354
Bahman	506406	211258459	1905	211404779	541382
Esfand	479008	230563594	2034	7149627	523579
Total	2773689	1252040352	11268	246749632	3127661

	Income thru goods haulage	Total Revenue gained Rls.	Total discounts and facilities Rls.	Net Income Rls.	Person/Km	Ton/Km
Mehr	583697072	825575931	15571511	810004420	328433977	295929250
Aban	574518123	755986692	15998089	739988604	172546741	290979799
Azar	557639650	754178214	16656443	727521871	224445542	262905840
Dey	425205200	844732648	13952299	830780249	365090383	280232360
Bahman	551815607	770142731	14929452	755214281	249044591	259383348
Esfand	614494451	852207672	10546283	841661389	276026290	320755358
Total	3507370117	4802824989	87654077	4715170914	1515587525	1710285955

Statistical figures of load and passenger transport and net income of the State Railway of Iran, from the month of Farvardin to Shahrivar (the first six months) of 1359.

Month	No. of passengers	Income thru passengers	Cargo in tons	Income thru cargo haul	Goods haul in tons	Income thru goods haulage
Farvardin	566022	300243021	1992	6050250	507576	618121100
Ordibehesht	356592	305519138	1998	6868465	486968	688699197
Khordad	482265	276247088	2602	6889495	463232	575918202
Tir	520646	290665277	1476	8369459	439412	587803626
Mordad.	38876]	217261726	1563	8692550	449928	570824995
Shahrivar	547207	349407963	1797	8920165	304490	241304941
Total	2872496	1729444213	11429	45790484	2651606	2382682181

	Total Revenue gained Rls.	Total discounts and facilities Rls.	Net income Rls.	Person/Km	Ton/Km
Farvardin	924514481	16698248	907816233	251180999	235337636
Ordibehesht	901086800	15699467	885287332	170627468	208532528
Khordad	859064845	13292237	845771509	228096405	267199657
Tir	886838412	14298999	872539403	245991931	265627259
Mordad	896779271	9992137	884804934	247979107	269051737
Shahrivar	699633069	17864564	81768505	404311297	161247684
Total	5167916878	87846752	5080087117	1548187207	1606996521

(To be Contd.)

Part IV - Airport Facilities

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 3 May 81 p 3

[Text]

(PART - IV)

9 - Pipelaying of the fire department in the ports of Bushehr, Anzali and Khunmshahr are about to be completed.

State Air Lines Organization:
1- Reconstruction of ceiling of the Mehrabad airport's terminal
2 - Construction of the terminal 2 of the Mehrabad airport.
3- Shelters for heavy machineries and storages of Mehrabad airport.
4- Hangers for jumbo jets.
5- 200 residential houses.
6- Establishment of the second hanger and the new ramp.
7- The lateral runway No. 3 and the strengthening of aircraft's parking tarmac.
8- Ducting installation for the building fo Radar Approach Controls.
9- Implementation of projects, relating to the terminal building of Dasht-e-Naz of Sari and Nushahr.
10- Development of Kermanshah airport terminal.
11- Establishment of sewage network of Abadan.
12- Development of Shiraz's airport terminal.
13- Construction works of Mashad's airport.
14- Construction works of Isfahan's police station.
15- Strengthening and asphalt coating of Ahvaz and Yazd airports runways.
16- Construction works of housing complexes in the cities of Kermanshah, Abadan, Ahvaz, Mashad, Isfahan, Bandar Abbas Bandar-e-Langeh, Zahedan and Yazd.
17- Removal of deficiencies in the installation of electronic and communicating devices and machineries in airports of the country.
18- Establishment of artificial barriers for protection against enemies' air-raids on airports and measures, relating to concealment of illumination in the period of war and also cooperation with State and military organizations, comprising Revolutionary Guards, Security headquarters of different provinces, police and gendarmerie's offices and bases of the Havanirooz and the Air Force.
19- Evaluation studies relating to projects and reconstruction works for the airports of Mehrabad-Dasht-e-Naz of Sari, Isfahan, Nowshahr, Mashad, Ardabil, Bandar Abbas, Bandar-e-Langeh, Kermanshah, Zahedan, Yazd, Sabzevar, Khorramabad, Rasht, Yasuj, Tabriz, the air station of Dahnaak, Orumieh's airport and Kerman.
20- Erection of 200 units of residential apartments in Tehran.
21- Project forthe establishment of residential houses of the airports of Mashad, Isfahan, Bandar Abbas Bandar-e-Langeh, Zahedan and Yazd.

22-Erection of 60 channels of microwave telecommunication and commissioning of satellite linking of telephone and telegraph facilities of the national airports with the neighboring countries.

23-Erection and installation of remote control communication systems to link ground control with airborne aircrafts totalling 24 frequencies for the Mehrabad airport.

24-Installatin of three 32 channels recorders, bringing the total to 96 channels and the time recording system installation for Mahrabad airport.

The Meteorological Organization of Iran:

1- Evaluation studies of 8,800 of meteorological plans of the ground's layer and stratosphere totalling 24,220 plans which have been deliberated and submitted to the responsible officials.

2- Increase of meteorological stations from 16 to 120.

3- Connecting of the telecommunication systems between Tehran and New Delhi by satellite.

4- Connecting of telecommunication center between Tehran and the other cities of Mashad, Tabriz, Isfahan, Shiraz, Ramsar, Abadan and Rasht in order to boost broadcast facilities.

5- Establishment of independent meteorological stations of Qazvin, Damavand and Firoozkoh.

6- Preparation of the agricultural meteorological research station of Hamedan to operational stage.

7- Multi-dimensional cooperation with the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the field of installation of telecommunication units in the battle fronts and the Technical support command.

8- Categorizing different parts of the country and providing identity cards to ease implementation of development projects in agriculture, industry, constructions of buildings, dam constructions, irrigation networks and environmental protections.

9- Evaluation studies and consideration of air pollution in Tehran.

10- Securing and distributing of statistical data on weekly fluctuations.

11- Programming of introductory courses for students so as to familiarize with the meteorological activities.

CSO: 4920

MINISTER REPORTS PROGRESS OF COPPER COMPLEX

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 13 May 81 p 2

(Text) Tehran--Mousa Khayyar, the Minister of State in charge of the Plan and Budget Organization who travelled to Kerman province said that "one section of the Sarcheshmeh Copper Complex will be put into operation this summer," it was reported yesterday.

Khayyar, while announcing the commission of the plant also said that the production of the sector which will start operation this summer will reach 50% of capacity in 6 months with the cooperation and efforts of Iranian experts and specialists.

The other sections will gradually be ready to be put into working order and operation.

Mousa Khayyar, on his visit to Kerman province was accompanied by Mir Mohammed Sadeghi, the Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Minister of Mines and Industries Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh, the Minister of State in charge of the Steel Industries.

Mousa Khayyar further added that Iranian and foreign specialists including Yugoslavians and East Germans have helped to put this complex in working order and in this connection, some specialists of these countries have so far travelled to Iran in order to solve existing problems with the close cooperation of Iranian specialists.

He said, "on the whole, Iranians must run this complex finally in the future.

One of our hopes after the revolution is that our experts will be able to manage such a unit by themselves.

The ministerial team inspected the installations of the Sarcheshmeh Complex and then attended the general assembly of the complex where they reviewed the complex general problems and made necessary decisions in order to speed up the installations of the Copper Complex on line.

CSO: 4920

ARABIC NEWSPAPER PRAISES KHOMEYNI POLICY

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 14 May 81 p 3

[Text]

TEHRAN – A call for the unity of Moslems against the oppressors of the world is a fundamental reason for the success of the Islamic movement in Iran, an Arabic newspaper Alsemmat–Al-Arabia in Sharjah has commented recently.

Real Islam always invites the masses to stand against the world oppressors and this is why the Islamic movement in Iran has been so successful, the article said.

The article was prepared as an answer to another written by an Iraqi writer. It said that the logic of Islam emphasizes that one should always stand for a righteous cause. It said that this should be so even when wrong is at its acme. Proof of this can be seen in the movement of the Moslem people of Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeini. It was the leadership which succeeded in overthrowing the former Iranian shah when he was at the peak of power.

The only weapons of the Iranians at the time were belief and faith. While Saddam and the rulers of Baghdad are today claiming that they have gained victory, they have really not. Let us suppose they have, against whom they have gained this victory is the question which needs answer. Is this victory against the occupiers of Qods? No. It is against the militant Moslem nation of Iran.

Of course, it is well known that the Iraqi regime after signing the Treaty of Algeria in 1975, claimed that the Ba'athist regime of Iraq had taken a revolutionary action. It was considered that the signing of the treaty was a revolutionary action. It is difficult to understand how this action of theirs and what they are doing at present can be related, the article said.

It is an open fact, that all Zionist and Arabic propaganda are directed against the Islamic movements and were trying to prove them as worthless. The Moslem nation of Iran and the Moslems of the world knew well about the important and erabic role of Imam Khomeini, which has been directing the Islamic Revolution for 17 years now.

At that time Imam Khomeini condemned the deposed shah and the occupier regime of Qods and the world imperialism. He constantly continued his struggle against all superpowers and the shah, till they put him in jail and finally exiled him. But nothing could prevent him from struggling against the superpowers and finally he was able to expel the shah out of Iran and establish an Islamic government in the country.

The article continued to state that another question which was brought up by the Iraqi writer was that in Iran today there were demonstrations by opposing parties within Iran. But, the article said, this is the best proof of the existence of freedom in Iran.

It asked further whether the opposition parties in Iraq demonstrate against that regime. Do they dare to participate in anti-government demonstrations, "it asked again.

The other question which was brought up by the Iraqi writer on which he laid particular stress was that the present regime in Iran was far away from real Islam, the article said. The article answering this criticism said the writer has been influenced both by West and East and so was his judgement. Islam in Iran has never been in favor of Arab mercenaries, the article contended in response to the writer's contention.

Arabic Islam has always has had its line in the misdirection of Islam preventing Moslems from standing up for their true rights, the article said further. Islam as presented by the Arabs has always tended to support the superpowers of the East and West in the region and keep the Islamic world under their thumbs, it argued.

Real Islam invites progressive movements to stand against the world oppressors, it said. And this is only done in the Islamic Republic of Iran causing both East and West to be afraid of it, the article said. Mercenaries who in order to support the superpowers interest in the region are fighting against Iran, the article concluded.

CSO: 4920

NOTABLES MAKE PRONOUNCEMENTS ON POLITICAL ISSUES

Montaseri on Deviant Youth

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 2 May 81 p 1

[Text]

QUM — Encouragement of leaders who misdirect the youths to plant bombs and stage demonstrations weakens Islam and the challenges the government to confront them instead of attending to basic tasks, a prominent religious leader said yesterday.

Ayatollah Hussainali Montazeri talked on how the foreign radios report that a demonstration of a few thousand took place whereas only some members of Leftist organizations had assembled.

Addressing these youths, Montazeri said, "O' Sympathizers. Do not be misled and allow for a possibility that your leaders might be mistaken.

"You who possess wisdom and awareness, how long should you be a prisoner of the greed of these organizations? Return to the society and Islam.

"Had the Uprising been non Islamic, these leaders would still have been rotting in the prisons."

The Ayatollah asked Friday Prayer Imams and religious leaders to "absorb" the stormy and proud youths. The deviant leaders are ready to create whatever situation to distract and utilize the youth, he said.

Montazeri's advice was for authorities to have "proper behavior" with these youths. The advice of Hazrat Ali (AS) also requires this, he added.

"The one that gets separated from the society, falls in the trap of the wolf," The Ayatollah cautioned, "Either the Eastern wolf or the Western wolf."

"The society is indebted to the labor of the workers and farmers," the Friday Prayer Imam of the holy city of Qom told a religious-political gathering.

Montazeri told the crowd: "The labor of farmers and workers safeguards honor of Moslems and independence of country. Work is regarded as being the part of a prayer and worship.

But "To the contrary, the go-slows and strikes create the grounds towards affliction and dependency."

In a pre-sermon speech, Hojjatoleslam Fakir warned on violations of the Ten Commandments of Imam Khomeini commented by some of the officials.

Highly praiseful of martyred Ayatollah Motahari, Qom's Friday Prayer Imam spoke of their 11 year long association. "Never have I seen him having developed an ill-mentioned view about any person.

"He, with his piety and superior knowledge, became a good mentor for those who followed the Path of Islam. And not only did he ever become the prisoner of his surroundings in Tehran, but, on the other hand, he exerted acute effects and impressions around him."

Montazeri recounted the literary works of Motahari and preached to the youngsters to read Motahari's books for at least one hour during a day.

Majlis Deputy on Peace Terms

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 4 May 81 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN – Ruzbehan's Deputy Mir Behzad Shabiyari called on the war imposed by Iraq on Iran in an open Islamic Consultative Majlis session yesterday and announced: "We will not submit to shameful, ugly peace even if everyone of us get killed."

Dezful's Deputy Seyed Ahmad Zarhani referred to the threats of French Mirage fighters to Iran and "messages of congratulations of the Soviet leadership to Saddam on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the Friendship Treaty between the countries."

Zarhani then continued: "More dangerous than these episodes is the supply of ground-to-ground missiles by West Germany to the aggressive government."

Protesting the move, Dezful's representative to Majlis said: "If the German Parliament failed to question its adulterer government on committing this crime, the history of the oppressed will drag the German Parliament to the interrogation table."

Like most other pre-agenda speakers, including Shabiyari, Zarhani also declared that none of the conspiracies of the two Superpowers and Saddam's heinous crimes will make the nation bow to intimidation.

Atleast three German parliamentarians who found their way into the Inter-Parliamentarian Union because of their love of humanity and peace "are requested to raise their shouts of protest against the German government on this open crime," the Dezful's deputy added.

Zarhani further urged these Germans "to stand in the face of this work of their own government which is opposed to the civil and international laws."

Mahkan Shahr's Deputy Ahmad Himmati described imperialism's "two-way" plan to destroy the Islamic Revolution.

1) Equipping reactionary hands of some Persian Gulf states with modern military weapons and harnessing "the child of its Devils such as Saddam" against Iran.

2) Dividing the Iranian people with lies, rumors, Using the anti-revolutionaries and enemies of Khalegh and Quran and developing a domestic front to crush revolution from within the country.

"But they are very much mistaken," Himmati added. "The nation which has brought the revolution at the cost of the bloodshed of its youth will never permit them to implement their plans," he vowed.

Pro-agenda speaker from Ruzbehan told the House: "The aim of raising the regional problems in the Majlis is not meant to weaken the government.

"And whoever weakens the government, cooperates with the enemies of the revolution . . . The anti-revolutionaries should know that we . . . will not be influenced by them."

Addressing himself to officials of the country's revolutionary institutions and organs, Mir Behzad Shabiyari cautioned: "Some people have been infiltrated into the organs.

"They want to insult the Islamic goals. Officials should beware of these people. And if a prosecutor or a religious judge lacks adequate competency, they should be fired from the jobs."

The deputy urged the officials: "Take your hands off the differences and think of the nation. With your unity, punch in the mouths of enemies of revolution and imperialism."

The deputy of Ferdous requested government investigations and assistance to repair the damages of the flood which killed 18 persons in Qaen, another five in Kakhak and destroyed an estimated number of 200 residential buildings.

Rafsanjani on Shift in Diplomacy

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 May 81 p 1

[Article by Ali Sobhani]

[Text] TEHRAN — Mohammad Hashemi Rafsanjani has explained seven basic principles on which the foreign policy of Islamic Republic is planned and founded upon.

The deputy to Premier Mohammadali Rajai on political affairs shed light on the provisions in an exclusive interview with the TEHRAN TIMES, and said these principles are inseparable, and integral part of the foreign policy.

1) Neither East nor West, Islamic Republic: The two aspects (a) negotiation of East and West and (b) ascertainment of Islamic Republic are inseparable from each other.

The above mentioned principle means negation of any kind of compromise with the East and the West.

Based on Velvi and Velayat-e-Faqih theme, the relations of Islamic Republic with other nations and governments are founded under the framework of Islamic values.

In this principle, we reject any kind of political equilibrium or balance of power in our foreign policy and we also reject compromise with one Superpower to fight another Superpower.

2) Presently we regard America as the Big Devil, the greatest enemy of Islamic Revolution, and a barrier undermining the materialization of revolutionary ideals.

The total victory of Islamic Revolution will be when we succeed in totally driving and boking out America even from the other Islamic countries.

America is a dam that blocks our revolutionary Islamic progress. Almost all conspiracies against Islamic Republic is somehow connected with the United States, either directly or indirectly.

3) Fight with oppressive Eastern, Western and Zionist powers: This is a hard, long and complicated fight which is basically now apparent mainly and only in the political, economic and military dimensions.

But such a fight also contails extensive and wide cultural and propaganda aspects. The Islamic Republic should utilize all resources in this field as well as advance the fight.

The government should effectively tackle and clarify its just stand against international propaganda that endeavors to show the Islamic Revolution to the world in a deceptive light.

The foreign loudspeakers, with adverse publicities, incite hatred in the public opinion towards our revolution and also prepare the world public opinion towards our country in a way which will justify the move in case Iran is invaded militarily.

4) Development of close ties with all oppressed people of the world, especially the Moslem nations, who are fighting with Zionism and international oppressors.

We should, in any way we can, unite with them and support them.

Previously, Iran's foreign relations gave priority to the Superpowers, industrial countries, and Western Europe. But Islamic Republic has a regard for special priority on relations with Asian, African and Latin American countries.

Knowing this, our policy would be to transfer our concern to diplomatic activities from the United States and Western Europe to these parts of the world which has special priority.

We are already aware of the situation that Africa has landed itself in. It is also mostly populated by Moslems, and all of them are under extreme colonialistic pressures.

Africans are also deprived people, they have started a fight against world exploiters, and they are Moslems. It is one of the duties, and part of the foreign policy, that Islamic Republic pay adequate attention to these regions of the world which were forgotten and neglected in the past.

5) Liberation of Quds: This principle is vital from Islamic viewpoint as well as the political viewpoint and this is part of our inseparable and integral policy.

An apparent significance is that our relations with those countries which have closer ties with Israel are colder, or non-existent.

As everyone is aware, Imam Khomeini has named one day as "Quds Day" and our hope is that under his shadow all Moslems familiarize themselves wit the issue to save Quds and Palestinian land occupied by international Zionism.

6) Fight "Divide and Rule" policy: One of the trends promoted by imperialists in the recent century is the issue of sowing discord capitalizing on issues and through various methods.

For example, nationalism, racial discrimination and the like.

Islamic Republic will fight such notorious motivations and that which causes discord between nations, thus becoming a tool in the hands of oppressive powers.

This principle will uproot the oppressors "Divide and Rule" policy within a country, and/or within the countries in a region. Such oppression cuts down a country into parts, and then oppressors rule over that land and plunders the resources.

7) Support oppressed people and liberation movements: Like the other six parts, this is another integral and inseparable principle of Islamic Republic's foreign policy.

We will support the fight of all oppressed people and the liberation and freedom-fighting movements of the world wherever they are found.

Particularly if these factions and movements are Islamic and Maktabi in nature, since such a nature will somehow mean that the similarities and mutuality of goal will be increasingly present and will develop a closeness with our ideology.

Rafsanjani on Exporting Revolution

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 7 May 81 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN – The 50-year dictatorial system that formerly ruled over Iran transformed the country into a graveyard, said Premier's Political Deputy Mohammad Rafsanjani in an exclusive interview with the TEHRAN TIMES.

A comparison between the Pahlavi Monarchy and Islamic Republic will indicate the sharp contrast between that former regime and our present Islamic system, he added.

Talking on export of revolution, the political deputy said he does not regard the "export" in terms of Iran launching "military attack" or "expansion of territories."

"In reality, the Islamic Revolution is a revolution of values. When Iran's nation brought an Islamic Revolution, it wanted these Islamic values to rule and strengthen the society," he continued.

Rafsanjani implied that export of revolution would be to transfer or reflect these values by different methods to other countries.

"The people in the far-flung away African or Latin American countries have developed a love for the revolution," he added. "This is export of revolution."

"We want to transfer these Islamic values of our society to the world in whatever way possible," the deputy issued the call.

He said such ways include measures like dispatch of teams through the embassies and explanation of Islamic values through whatever method possible by selected, suitable individuals.

And through our brothers in the Islamic Associations abroad, he added. He further said that this was the meaning of export of revolution.

Such task was, and is being, accomplished by those passengers who travelled abroad and through circulations of literature by Moslem travellers etc, he said.

Talking on transference of Islamic Revolutionary values, Rafsanjani said Iran's foreign policy should mobilize the pertinent ministries such as foreign affairs and Islamic guidance to select appropriate persons for Islamic propagation abroad.

Films and slides should also be prepared showing the constructive accomplishments of revolutionary organs within these two years and to draw a comparison with the former dictatorial rule which turned the country into a grave, and and to show the films and slides to the world.

The oppressed nations should be told and shown what Islam is and what Islamic values really mean. And what is the difference between an Islamic and other governments when they capture power.

In this respect, some portion of the targets has been attained but it is not enough. Increased efforts should be made to advance the task of introducing the nature of our revolution to the world.

The TEHRAN TIMES reporter referred to the political deputy a clergy personality's opinion for Iran to send guerilla assistance in some instances where a nation has revolted and to help that nation topple its regime for establishing an Islamic Republic.

"In your opinion, will such an assistance be acceptable? And could this play a role to export the revolution?," the reporter asked Rafsanjani.

Rafsanjani reiterated that one of the seven foreign policy principles calls for support of all oppressed and liberating movements. A definite stand to provide commando assistance cannot be considered in a clear-cut manner.

Such provision depends on several factors, including the ideology and the stand and goal of the movement itself to which we want to send guerilla help.

Our principle is to help oppressed people who have decided to fight oppressors. Now the step to be implemented revolves around the ways and means and nature of assistance we have to provide.

It is to be determined, in each case, whether our help is to be in "financial form or manpower, but what is important is that we transfer our Islamic values."

But in Islam, Prophet Mohammad (S.A.W) is reported to have recited that if a Moslem shouted for help, help should be given.

Azam Taleqani on Khomeyni as Savior

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 11 May 81 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN -- "We consider Imam of the Ummat as the savior of humanity today and regard any kind of unjustified and antagonizing encounter against him as an oppression and condemn it," Azam Taleqani told the Majlis yesterday.

In a pre-agenda speech, the Tehran's deputy stressed upon ascertaining DOs and DON'Ts implementation and presented several pertinent proposals.

Ms. Taleqani, the daughter of Late Ayatollah Mahmoud Taleqani, shed light on the ways and methods desirable for a rule of Islamic laws.

If Islamic orders are carried out based on a spirit of justice in Islam and according to the capacity of absorption and maktabi growth of the society, she told the House, then Iran will have no cause for "any anxiety and alarm whatsoever of theEast and the West and the political groups."

She touched on the essentiality of orators and writers to groom the society in the fields of personal growth, intellectuality, and theological persuasions.

Taleqani advocated that "the individuals, in whatever position, capacity and responsibility, should consider the rights of the people."

She also called on the government and the nation to rescue the agriculture and economy sector from stagnation and to boost the domestic production.

With an emphasis on Islamic Republic's policy that should be independent of Eastern or Western influence, Mrs. Taleqani denied presentation of any kind of bill to Majlis on the "hejab" issue for women. Islamic scarf that covers the hair or simple, loose and unprovocative dress that appropriately covers the body.

She asked all sisters and brothers to select dignified dress to honor the dignity of human beings.

Islamabad's Deputy Lateef Saghiri talked about Islam's victories in the battlefields. "This imposed war was a trial and test for clarifying the nature of regional reactionary governments and their domestic agents as well as recognition of the righteous Islamic defenders," Saghiri added.

Majlis Speaker Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani read and intimated to the government Bijar deputy's call for ministries of agriculture and oil and the economic mobilization headquarters to supply fuel to Bijar's farmers the lack of which had paralyzed agricultural implements.

Rafsanjani extended condolence of Majlis to all survivors of the flood casualties and ruins in different areas of the country and asked the government to amend and overcome the problems with revolutionary zeal.

CSO: 4920

MONTAZERI PLEDGES SUPPORT TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 10 May 81 p 2

[Text] QOM, May 9 (Pars) – The unifying politico-religious congregation of Friday Prayers in Qom was held by the prominent theologian, Ayatollah Montazeri. The majority of devoted Muslims along with the faithful pilgrims of Hazrat Masoumeh (A.S.) participated in this glorious ritual.

Mohammad Ali Raja'i, the Prime Minister accompanied by his political adviser and his cultural counselor also attended the Prayer.

Prior to the sermons Hojjatoleslam Haghanni, the Majlis deputy delivered a speech.

According to the Pars correspondent, Ayatollah Montazeri preached his first sermon as follows:

"Temptation is not exclusive property of Satan, since man is also quite vulnerable to this phenomenon."

In the course of his sermon, the eminent theologian addressed the leaders of the various political factions and confirmed, "I am aware of the fact that your socio-political concepts are in contrast with my intellectual policy, since you despise me as a "reactionary" clergyman. You should know that my attitude towards you is moulded with paternal affection. As a matter of fact, you are tempted by the superficial elegance and the false promises of the leftist splinter-groups. However, your motivations are quite pure and your temperament is colored with innocence and good will. After all, the young generation in our Islamic Society are endowed with respect, the Muslim authorities are highly concerned about your destination. And I warn you against the false temptation of such political factions who enchant you with deceptive ideologies.

Beware that these marxists organizations will betray your loyalty and you would be victimized by their evil tendencies. According to divine justice you are not justified to demote your socio-humane status as the scape goats to fulfill the opportunistic objectives of the communist parties. Since in this respect you will be condemned with the tragic destiny of Sharif Vaghefi and Samadieh Lahiedi, the rare devoted political activists affiliated with Mojahideen Khalgh Organization.

When you are deceived with the false propaganda of the leftist groups, you will be pre-occupied with their ideologies and within a while you will be metamorphosized into conceited egocentric individuals. In consequence the innocent followers of such splinter-groups would be the ultimate social out-casts in our Islamic Society.

The faithless leaders of political factions are not justified to take advantage of the philantropic policy of the Islamic Republic. You must not disgrace the sacred status of the Muslim martyrs in quest of your vaulting ambition.

In his second sermon, Ayatollah Montazeri extended his message of condolence for the nation in commemoration of the Martyred Imam Ali-An-Naqi (A.S.).

Ayatollah Montazeri then paid profound tribute to the resistance of the martyred Bobby Sands in his quest for emancipation.

In commemoration of the heroic endeavors of the Irish warriors, the Friday prayer Imam of Qom made the following comments.

"While the Catholic Irish militants are aspiring towards freedom the Vatican has assumed a nonchalant policy.

I fervently pray for the fulfillment of the divine promise for the enlightened oppressed to triumph over the supressors. I here by declare that Iran's Islamic republic should express overwhelming support for the International liberation movement.

At the termination of his sermons, Ayatollah Montazeri called for the public mobilization to extend financial charity to the destitude survivors of the recent Khurasaan Flood.

CSO: 4920/364

WOMEN'S STATUS DESCRIBED IN MOTAHERI'S BOOK

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 3 May 81 p 3

[Excerpts]

— Quran states explicitly in many verses that the reward in the other world and proximity to God depend on one's faith and deed not gender.

— As far as the movement towards God is concerned, Islam does not make any distinction between men and women.

— Islam never says that women were created for the sake of men but it states that "Women are your clothes and adornments and you are their clothes and adornments."

Quran is not only a set of rules, its contents are not purely a series of lifeless laws and regulations without interpretation. Quran contains laws, history, sermons, interpretation of creation as well as many other topics. In some cases, it issues instructions in the form of laws, in other cases it interpretates existence and describes the secret of creation of the earth, sky, fauna, flora, life, death, glory, Abjectness, progress, degredation, wealth and of poverty.

Although Quran is not a book of philosophy, it has clearly stated its views about the universe, man and society, which constitute three principal themes of philosophy. The holy book does not teach only law or give advice to its followers, but by means of interpretation of creation gives them a particular world outlook. The foundation of Islamic regulations regarding social affairs, such as ownership, government, family rights etc. are the same interpretation as given for creation and objects.

Among the problems discussed in the holy Quran is the creation of men and women. Quran has not been silent on this point, has not given any opportunity to prattlers to cook up their own philosophy for regulations concerning men and women and to claim the basis of such regulations to be the contemptuous view of Islam towards women. Islam has expressed its views about women in advance.

In order to understand Quran's view about creation of men and women, it is necessary to pay attention to this question as expressed in other religious books as well. Quran has not been reticent on this score either. We should see whether Quran has regarded them as one or two different natures. But in numerous verses of Quran, it is stated that women have been created with the same nature as men. Sura Nesa, verse one reads: "O people! be careful of your duty to your Lord, who created you from a single being and created its mate of the same (kind) and spread from these two, many men and women ..." According to Quran, your mate has been created from the same kind as you (Nesa, Ale Omran and Rum Suras).

It is stated in other religious books that women is inferior and parasitic to man, that Adam's wife was created from the left part of his body. There are no such remarks in Quran which does not hold any contemptuous view towards woman and her nature.

Another compatible view which was held in the past and which produced an undesirable effect on the world literature was that, woman is the element of sin, and the embodiment of temptation. It is said that woman is a small satan, that whenever a crime is committed by a man, a woman has been the instigator, that a man is dragged to sins under the influence of a woman, that Satan penetrates into a man, not directly, but through a woman, that satan tempts a woman who then tempts a man; also that when Adam was

tempted by satan and driven out of paradise, it was under the spell of a woman,' i.e. satan tempted Eve who then tempted Adam.

Quran recounts the story of Adam but never introduces Eve as the principal culprit, nor does it leave her out of account. Quran says "we told Adam to stay in paradise, with his wife and enjoy its fruit." When the question of temptation is involved Quran uses dual pronouns, stating that Satan tempted them both, misled them both, and swore in the presence of them both that it wished them well.

Thus, Quran rose against the attitudes prevalent at that time which still survives today, and exonerate the female gender of her being the element of sin and temptation.

Another contemptuous view held towards a woman concerned her intellectual and spiritual capacity. It was said that the woman does not go to paradise, she cannot attain godly status, that she cannot get close to God to the same extent a man can. Quran states explicitly in many verses that the reward in the other world and proximity to God depend on one's faith and deed not gender. At the side of every great and holy man, Quran mentions a great and saint woman. It praises greatly Adam's and Abraham's wives as well as Moses' and Christ's mothers. Although it states that Noah's and Lot's wives were unworthy women for their husbands, it has not neglected to mention Pharaoh's wife as a woman who was entangled with an evil man. It is as if Quran wanted to maintain a balance in its stories and to have heroes and well as heroines.

About Moses' mother Quran says: "We send "inspiration" to Moses' mother to breast feed her baby and when she gets afraid of his life, to throw him into the sea and not to worry because we shall restore him to her.

About Mary, Christ's mother Quran says: "She was elevated to so high a plain, that angles spoke to her in her prayer and nourishment came to her from invisible world. She rose so high intellectually as to astonish the Prophet of her day and to leave him behind. Zacharias was astounded in Mary's presence."

In the history of Islam, there are many holy and respectful women, for example few men can equal Khadijeh, and no man, except the Prophet and Ali, equals Hazrate Zahra, who is also higher than her children as well as the Prophets, except the very last one. As far as the movement from people towards God is concerned, Islam does not make any distinction between men and women, and the disunction it makes between them is in the direction from God towards people and the capacity to endure the onus of prophethood, where men are considered to be more suitable.

Another contemptuous view held towards women is in connection with abstemiousness and saintliness of celibacy. As we know, in some religions, sexual intercourse is held to be inherently wicked. According to followers of these religions, only those people can elevate spiritually who have remained in the state of celibacy throughout their lives. A famous religious authority remarks 'Uproot the tree of marriage with the axe of virginity.'

The same leaders allow marriage institution merely to repel what's worse for the sake of what is bad, that is to say, they maintain that as most people cannot endure celibacy, would lose their control, tempted towards prostitution and would mix with several women, so it would be better for them to marry and to be in touch with only one woman. The root of attitude of abstemiousness and the support of celibacy lies in the pessimism towards the woman. Love of a woman is held to be an integral part of ethical corruption.

Islam fought hard against this superstition, considered marriage as a sacred union and celibacy as a wicked state. Islam presented love of a woman as a prophetical behavior. The Prophet of Islam says: "I am interested in three things, perfume, woman and prayers."

Bertrand Russel says: "A kind of pessimism towards sexual desire is found in all religions except Islam. Islam has provided certain regulations and set limits for such a desire to take account of social expedience, but it has never held it to be a wicked act."

Another contemptuous view held about women was that there were considered as preliminary for men and created for the sake of men.

But Islam never makes such pronouncements. Islam states the ultimate reason with perfect clarity, saying that the earth, the sky, cloud, wind, plants and animals are all created for human beings, but it never says that women are created for sake of men. Islam says that men and women have been created for sake of each other. It says: "Women are your clothes and adornments, and you are their clothes and adornments."

If Quran had considered woman to be preliminary to man and created for his sake, it would have inevitably enacted its laws along that direction. But as in its interpretation of creation, Islam does not hold such a view and as it does not consider woman to be a parasite of man so it has not looked at it in the same way in its special regulations.

Another contemptuous view held about woman in the past was that she was considered as a necessary evil. Although many men enjoyed the company of women greatly, yet, they despised women and considered them the causes of misfortune. The holy

Quran stresses the point that woman is a source of blessing for a man and contributes to his tranquility and peace of mind.

Another despising view held about woman was that her share in reproduction was held to be insignificant. Arabs during pagan period, and some other nations, held mothers to be mere receptacles that receive and develop man's sperms which are the principal seeds. The pronouncements of Ayat of Quran to the effect that we are created of men and women, and of some other Ayat, as described in interpretations, have put an end to this attitude.

In view of above remarks, it is therefore clear that from philosophical and creation points of view, Islam does not express a contemptuous view towards women, on the contrary, it rejects such views.

CSO: 4920/364

RAJA'I PRAISES LOYALTY OF HIZBOLLAHIS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 10 May 81 p

[Text]

TEHRAN - "I and the whole nation, who recognize Hizbollah, do not complain of those who introduce Hizbollah as a stick-wielder since we believe that they have not recognized Hizbollahis", said Premier Mohammadali Rajai.

Those who have nick-named Hizbollahi as a stick-wielder " do not even recognize Allah," he said and remaked that the question of recognizing Hizbollahi does not arise even.

The premier said : Hizbollah are those people who launched their movement since 15th Khordad 1342 (1963) with Imam and raised slogans in mosques and religious gatherings which were, even at that time, adhered to the Line of Imam.

Hizbollah are those people who poured into the streets of Tehran upon Imam's arrival here and created the unprecedented uproar and enthusiasm which we all witnessed.

Hizbollahis are the very same people who came out from their houses and poured into the streets at 4 o'clock in the afternoon at the order of Imam and presented their chests against the bullets.

Hizbollahis are those very persons who came out on 17th Shahrivar, on 1st Muharram in Tabriz, Qom and other areas of the country on orders of the committed clergy, irrespective of many groups who considered the fight in scientific terms, and freely waged a battle in path of God.

We were witness that some groups labelled this free fight of Hizbollahis as a "blind fight' Hizbollahis are those who are nameless, selfless and without any expectation of rewards, and are present in the arena of fight.

The Hizbollahis also are those people who struggle until late night in the factories and work so much in the offices that even the clock gets tired.

Hizbollahis are those who on the orders of Imam if it is necessary, they keep silent,and if it is necessary, they raise shouts.

Hizbollahis are those who safeguard the revolution. They are the guards of the revolution and they themselves are capable to safeguard the revolution which they themselves brought.

Hizbollah does not have an organization such as the organizations of the political parties. Hizbollah moved on orders of Imam and the committed clergy.

They are the friends of the revolution.

If we want to know what Hizbollah is all about, let us go back a little to the revolutionary round from 15th Khordad 1342 through 22nd Bahman 1357 and evaluate this period.

And let us see : Even after 22nd Bahman until now, the Hizbollah not even did not expect anything from the revolution, but it thinks that it owes something to the revolution.

Even now, when Hizbollah goes at the war front, its whole body shakes whenever the name of Imam is heard.

When some persons observed the wonderful force of Hizbollah, they started giving it names and notoriety and introduced Hizbollahis as stick-wielders.

CSO: 4920

AUSTRIA'S KREISKY CRITICIZED FOR MEETING KURD LEADER

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 13 May 81 p 1

[Article by Seyed Hussein Mousavian]

[Text] Some months ago newspapers published a news based on meeting of Mr Kriesky, Chancellor of Austria, with dissolved Kurdish Democratic Party's Qasemlou who is one of the number once sworn and original enemies of the Islamic Republic and that Qasemlou, after the meeting, had said that Kreisky is from us and supports our goals and...

Some days ago, we wrote an article regarding this point and severely subjected Mr Kriesky to sharp criticism.

Printing this article made the ambassador of Austria embark to have a meeting with us.

It is natural that with height of pleasure and respect we should have accepted that request and perhaps it was an occasion for us to go and meet him.

Anyway, the discussion we had in the meeting, he was exceedingly unhappy and complaining on printing this article and the acute attacks on Mr Kreisky.

He was saying that Kreisky is one of the most prominent personalities who has strived on the path of restoration of Human Rights throughout the world, particularly Africa.

And that Mr Kreisky, before everyone else, accepted the most revolutionary kind of people. Such as Arafat. That Mr Kriesky was one of the foremost personalities who officially recognized Iran's revolution.

That Mr Kreisky and the government of Austria had very friendly relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and ...

Voluntarily, we not only accepted the above things but we appreciated and thanked him for his above stands and then it was told to him that our criticism is not a reason to forget the good qualities of Mr Kreisky and the government of Austria.

But the present criticism is of this "meeting" and this "support."

Ambassador of Austria said: "Neither me nor you know of the incidents of this meeting and what went on between these two and Mr Qasemlou himself is responsible for his own statements."

We replied: "It is not above two things: a) Statements of Qasemlou were true. That means Mr Kreisky supported Qasemlou and goals of Qasemlou; b) Statements of Qasemlou were lies.

In case the statements of Qasemlou were lies, why Mr Kriesky did not deny it, or why government of Austria did not deny it or at least you, as the ambassador of Austria to Iran, did not deny it?!"

He replies that: "Mr Kreisky has tens of meetings every day and if he wants to deny and confirm about every meeting then he has no more time to investigate the main works of the country."

We replied: "This issue is not a simple one. One of the greatest domestic enemies of the Islamic Republic has announced that Mr Kriesky is supporting him!

"At least you, who are here to safeguard the good relations of Iran and Austria, should have, with one question put to your government, erased this great pessimism towards Mr Kreisky and your government.

The reply: "No. Neither is this my responsibility nor the responsibility of Mr Kreisky. Iran, if it is interested, can ask its own ambassador in Austria to clarify the whole issue by putting one question to Mr Kreisky."

We replied: "If you are here to safeguard the good relations of Iran and Austria (assuming that Iran's ambassador in Austria was lazy and careless) you should have clarified the bouts" and ...

Last week, Qasemlou the traitor, asked his colleague, Saddam the American, to bombard the prison that contained 200 of the best youths of Islam whom Qasemlou tortured and tormented for quite sometime.

And Saddam, upon his request, did so. He bombed the prison. Shame on both of them and their supporters.

Today, our government issued a communique regarding this treasonous cooperation of Qasemlou with the mercenary Ba'athist Iraqi regime.

Condemning this conspiracy, the statement said: "The groups who have signed a friendship pact with Qasemlou, and by creating internal tension they try to show the heretic enemy as insignificant and to hide the criminal face of Qasemlous and allies, what answer do they have against this open crime towards the sons of an Islamic country in the prison of Doleh Tou?"

We think that it is now high time that Mr Kreisky, the Chancellor of Austria, clarify his own stand against that "meeting" and "support" lest he is being addressed by the government of Islamic Republic of Iran.

We hope not, if God willing.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED

Iron Purchases

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 6 May 81 p 2

[Interview with Abbas Shahavi, director of Metal Preparation and Distribution Center]

[Text]

TEHRAN, May 5 (Pars) — Abbas Shahavi, the chairman of the board and managing director of the Metal Preparation and Distribution Center, in an interview with Pars said:

"Although Iran has one of the largest iron and energy resources in the Middle East unfortunately due to the incorrect policies of the former regime she had been turned into one of the biggest consuming markets for iron and steel.

"He then, referring to the statistics of imports and their effect on preserving the country's interests said:

"Up to now, about 1,300,000 tons of ironware has been purchased since September 1980. Some 430,000 tons of this amount, has arrived in the country which is still in the Custom's inventory, and we are involved in releasing the rest. some 250,000 tons has also been delivered. This ironware has directly been purchased from the producing units in Sweden, Spain, West Germany, East Germany, Austria, Japan, all the Eastern Bloc countries such as COMECON, China and North Korea.

"By accurately knowing the world market of iron, and realizing the ascending and descending stages of the price of iron, we have benefitted from the best opportunities in our orders. These purchases have all been done during the time of the economic sanctions by the west, and proved the futility of these sanctions. The government has a reserve of thousands of tons of ironware and we do not have any shortage in this regard.

Mr. Shahavi then, referring to the steel agreement between Iran and Japan, said: "The framework of this agreement is reviewed twice every year in which, the amount and characteristics and the basic prices would be determined. The Japanese companies, despite their wishes, would sell their goods without any intermediary to Iran."

Mr. Shahavi, then added that: "Another outcome of our journey to Japan was preparing the groundwork for a three month agreement, on which basis, an amount of 120,000 tons of raw materials for the iron-molding and pipe-manufacturing companies of the country would be provided."

Atomic Energy Research

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 10 May 81 p 1

[Text] Tehran--"Atomic Energy will have the key role in energy production field in the future and the Ministry of Energy is to launch feasible investigations in the scientific and nuclear technology field," said Energy Minister Abbaspour yesterday.

This will be incorporated in and the scientific and nuclear technology programs will be "coordinated with other policies of Islamic Republic," the minister said.

The policy will be followed up to adjust with the "needs of the society" and will be advanced with the "right program," Abbaspour told.

He led the address in an inauguration ceremony yesterday in Isfahan of a 3-day seminar on "investigation of technology buildup of nuclear power centers in Iran."

The aim of the seminar is to "determine the principle lines of action and nuclear investigation programs in Iran in connection with creation of power reactors."

The energy minister, after outlining Iran's atomic energy needs and its incorporation in Iran's policy [words blurred] the seminar be [words blurred] to share and help form the atomic energy proposals.

Abbaspour [words blurred] on having the cooperation of all experts and professionals in and out of the country to assist in the atomic projects especially when Islamic Republic "honors and values the volunteering experts and scholars, who wants to serve the Islamic Revolution, so much so that it is unprecedented in the history of any other country."

More Bank Loans for Agriculture

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 30 Apr 81 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN – The Bank of Agriculture will be a partner in the agricultural programs and projects and will invest 60 per cent of the capital, the bank's Managing Director Engineer Hussein Akbari said yesterday.

The current bank program is payment of loans to the farmers until a maximum sum of Rials 500,000 against a morally obliging "conscience" certificate for re-payment, the director said.

Akbari also said a Help Fund with estimated Rials 10 billion in the budget has been allocated to help the farmers who have suffered losses on their agricultural products.

The officials also said that within a period of a month, two banks, i.e., Bank of Agricultural Development and Bank of Agricultural Coordination, will be merged and centralized as one headquarter to operate from.

Heretofore, the agricultural loans will be granted to the farmers in the form of "material," but not cash, so that inflation is checked, Akbari stressed.

This will also ensure that the money is directed towards production field and not consumption field, he added.

In an exclusive interview with the Para news agency, he also

said that the minister of agriculture and suburb development will help coordinate the grant of agricultural loans.

"In the current year, this bank has a budget of Rials 20 billion which will be given to the farmers," Akbari said.

But he said that with the help of the agriculture minister, it is arranged that "the loans are to be given more to the revolutionary institutions who allot machines and agricultural supplies to the farmers, than that the loan be given to the farmers" directly.

"Required coordination will be brought in the township and provincial centers so that loans are paid through one channel," the director said.

He said the former agricultural programs and projects, whose contractors and implementors have fled the country or were annihilated from the schemes, will be re-implemented by the bank to boost production.

Rials 7 billion are considered for these projects in the budget, he added, and the bank will invest in all priority projects in different regions.

Akbari also put emphasis on supplying agricultural machineries to the farmers.

The bank officials further said that the bank will provide funds to the cooperative societies to crush the popular trend of paying money to the middlemen and agents.

Bank will charge 2 per cent of loans given to the cooperatives and 4 per cent on loans given to the farmers, he said.

Loans will further be given to the veterinary and animal-rearing people and mobile teams will roam about in villages "in order to increase the production of meat in the country."

On overall agricultural system, administration and other aims of the bank, the managing director said: "On the whole... the system of the Bank of Agriculture... still lagged behind vis-a-vis the progress of the revolution.

"And the reason is the former management teams who brought a special detachment in the banks vis-a-vis the revolution, and the reactions of this detachment is clearly observed in the society."

The "noises" raised in the banking field, generally owed to the fact that "The banks did not know what it should do, and absence of two ministers in the maktabi cabinet of Premier Mr. (Mohammadali) Rajai intensified this subject.

"And, overall, an anarchial system was created in the banking system."

Since, regretfully, the account of this bank during the year 1358 has not yet been clarified, "it was necessary to effect changes in the management of the bank in order that a coordination is created to adjust to the system of thought of our brothers in the cabinet.

CSO: 4920

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES ELABORATED BY MINISTER

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 7 Apr 81 p 7

[Text] Brother Mohammad Salamati, minister of agriculture and rural development, in an exclusive interview with a correspondent from the PARS NEWS AGENCY, discussed the most important activities during the second half of the year 1359 [23 September 1980-20 March 1981]. Referring to the administrative measures taken during this period, he said: Just as I said before when I first entered this ministry, a policy based on the principle of decentralization has been firmly established, and to this end a unit called The Unit for Following up on Client Affairs has been formed in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, so that the affairs of clients will be seen to quickly and that client desires will be fulfilled and pursued sooner. Brother Salamati added the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is committed to changing the system of the ministry, and this change will be brought about by creating centers for agricultural, village and family service. A number of things have been done to accomplish this, and will be done. Brother Salamati said the activities of this ministry and those of the Reconstruction Crusade may overlap due to their similarities. Therefore, there must be prior coordination with the Reconstruction Crusade, as well as an apportionment of tasks, so that the work of this ministry and the Reconstruction Crusade may complement each other. The work of forming the centers was completed yesterday and the centers will soon be installed at the village level.

In this way all the facilities and expertise in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development will be made available at the village level.

Increase of Areas Under Cultivation

Brother Salamati then discussed the statistics on increases of areas under cultivation, saying: The statistics that have come to hand show that there has been a 30- to 40-percent increase of areas under cultivation in the current agricultural year compared to the previous year. In the Province of Kerman this increase has also been that amount. In the Province of Sistan va Baluchestan it has been 20 percent. In the Province of Khorasan there have been increases both in the amount of land under cultivation and the quality of cultivation.

He added that in the Province of Hamadan all points that are workable and accessible have been cultivated, and this accomplishment is unequaled elsewhere.

in the central provinces and in Tehran the amount of land under cultivation is very satisfactory.

In the Province of Khuzestan, despite the war and the insecurity, the area under cultivation is satisfactory. Brother Salamati then said: God willing, if there is enough rainfall, since the amount of cultivation has shown striking growth, there will also be striking growth in production. Salamati said: The amounts of seed, fertilizer and insecticide available to farmers have been consistently higher than last year, and available credit during the period under consideration has doubled. Increases in prices guaranteed by the government have added to incentives for farmers to farm. He added: Farmers have faced a number of problems, such as power outages and lack of rainfall since a month prior to new year's [21 March 1981] which have led to drought conditions. Furthermore, shortages of fuel and motor oil have placed us under extraordinary pressure. If there had not been these problems, the levels of production would have been consistently better than this. Of course, with the help of the brothers in the Reconstruction Crusade, the seven-person councils, the people, and the revolutionary bodies, we have overcome the difficulties.

Fishing

He then discussed the situation in the country's fisheries, and said: Among the things bequeathed to us by the former regime include a shortage of refrigerators, of frozen products, of ice factories in the southern areas, insufficient roadways for rapid transport of fish, a lack of piers and harbors, unavailability of fresh water in ports, increases in smuggling activity, non-existence of repair centers for fishing boats, shortage of fishing implements, lack of cooperation in hunting, and equipment failures. During this 6-month period we have been able to get refrigerators in operation with the help of specialists, to make ice lockers useable, and to increase canning output from 30,000 cans per day to 1 million per day. In the southern fisheries, where the catch in the years 1356 [21 March 1977-20 March 1978] and 1358 [21 March 1979-20 March 1980] had reached 6,000 tons, we were able to achieve a 40 percent increase in 1359 [21 March 1980-20 March 1981]. Various companies were prevented from profiteering and the southern hemisphere, which was selling its catch to Iran, was driven out. Brother Salamati said: In the area of the fisheries, we have effective long-range and short-range plans for making the best use of resources. The procurement of equipment such as fishing boats and ships and the like will take a long time, but things that can be done in one stroke will be done immediately. Two methods of fishing will be employed, the traditional and the relatively advanced, so that production will increase. Brother Salamati said: In some areas the catch has multiplied several fold. In the Dair area, where the catch was no more than [figure illegible] tons, it has reached 45 tons. This extraordinary figure is noteworthy. The shrimp catch in Bushehr during 1358 [21 March 1979-20 March 1980] was around 450 tons. In the period between 20 Mordad to 10 Mehr 1359 [11 August 1980-2 October 1980] this figure reached 417 tons. The Fish Meal Factory for animal feed has been readied and equipped. Various cold storage units have been put into operation. The fishing fleet is anxious to increase the level of production.

Transfer of Agricultural Machinery

To help those who keep livestock [sic]. He then discussed the matter of farm machinery, saying: Considering the problem of the war and the economic blockade, a considerable amount of agricultural machinery has been made available to farmers. Even with various difficulties, tillers have also been made available to farmer brothers in the North, at the appropriate time. Concerning tractors, the government is subsidizing every tractor with about 160,000 rials so that farmers can obtain tractors more cheaply. Efforts are being made to continue this help, even though the cost of procuring and distributing tractors has gone up. Brother Salamati then discussed the matter of land, and said: During the last 6 months of the current year we have been able to create cooperative production units. This was done by the seven-person councils, and farmers who had no land became landowners.

Around 10 billion rials in credit have been made available to farmers throughout the country during the second half of the current year by members of the seven-person councils. We have also made striking progress with regard to cultivation and industries in Haft Tapeh and Karun. Production has grown markedly in these two farms and industries during the second half of 1359 [1970-1971], and during this period another 25,000 hectares of pasture have been planted. Brother Salamati then said: The destructive things that were done during the former regime have prevented us from accomplishing as much as we wanted in the short run, and as a result neither we nor the people expect work to be fully underway. We need time.

Procurement of Seeds

Brother Salamati then said: We have been faced with shortages with regard to the preparation of the land for cultivation during these 6 months which have been alleviated in various ways. There were no sorted, high-quality seeds, either for pasture grasses or other necessary crops, and these seeds came in at the appropriate times. Of course, there are plans being prepared and implemented to make us self-sufficient in sorting seeds in the future. In the past, seeds that could not be used after 4 or 5 years were used for up to 10 years, and as a result crops obtained were not sufficient, and production was hurt. With regard to rice seeds, for the first time we have been successful in offering sufficient quantities of a seed known as Gil 1, Gil 2 and Gil 3, and, God willing, next year we will distribute Gil 1, 2 and 3. With regard to other seeds, efforts will also be made so that we will have no need of foreign countries. In general, it must be said that the quantities of seed and fertilizer in the last 6 months of the current year compared to the same period of last year are consistently better. Brother Salamati then discussed the matter of ownership, and said: Concerning land, so long as the responsibilities of ownership are not clear it is actually impossible to formulate plans. Of course, the matter of land ownership will be spelled out soon by the Majles. In the meantime, I recommend that the seven-person councils specify the lands that are open to question and subject to dispute as to ownership and to send a report on their situation along with documents to the revolutionary courts to study and to specify the status of the land, because the status of a group of disputed lands will become clear, and it will be evident that the lands had been plundered, the farmers persecuted, or else the

owner did not acquire it legally, and as a result the court will be able to issue an opinion and the proper assignment of the land will be stipulated. Brother Salamati said: In the year 1359 [21 March 1980-20 March 1981] the quantity of imported food was increased compared to the year 1358 [21 March 1979-20 March 1980]. Regarding meat, efforts were also made not to import it, since in time of war and economic sanctions it is necessary to produce more than the amount consumed, and to designate currency for necessary work. We will use the money for purchasing imported meat to produce food and to strengthen animal husbandry. In conclusion, he said: During the current year any wheat offered to the government by farmers will be purchased at 28 rials per kilogram.

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CSO: 4906/227

JOURNALISTS BRIEFED ON WAR FRONTS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 10 May 81 p 2

[Interview with Col Badri, Col Attarian]

[Text] KERMANSHAH, May 9 (Pars) — A group of Iranian and foreign journalists paid a visit to positions in the western fronts, which were recently regained by Iran. Colonel Badri, the head of Zahab Operations, after pointing out the strategic importance of the Bazi Deraz Heights and relating the retaking of these Heights said, "Many ammunition depots of Saddam's army have been left here. Considerable material has been taken out from them." The reporters then visited the captured cement bunkers and a large store raised by the enemy forces on the Bazi Deraz Heights in which looted materials from Qasr-e Shirin were being sold.

Upon their return to Kermanshah, the reporters held a discussion with Colonel Attarian, the Operational Commander for western Iran and Majid Haddadi Adel, the political-administrative deputy of the Governor General of Kermanshahan.

Colonel Attarian said that in the course of history, this was the very first time a nation was fighting without relying on any superpower and said also that it would be surely triumphant." In this war, we upset all regulations and systems of war. We even proved to be the exception to the rule which says that the number of attackers must triple that of the defenders and we regained the Bazi Deraz Heights with only 500 troops. We took 507 PoWs in these operations and killed 1,000 Iraqi soldiers. Iran offered only 64 martyrs to Allah and 100 to 150 people were wounded. About 30 people of ours are missing."

Responding to a question about Saddam's claims that he had taken 340 Iranian PoWs in these operations, Colonel Attarian said, "We are only missing 30 people and 4 of these 64 martyrs offered their lives to Allah because they went to retrieve the bodies of our martyrs. Albeit Saddam does not collect the bodies of his soldiers."

He went on to say that the Iranians had acquired victories in the Tang-e Hajian, Seyyed Sadegh, Kalineh and Koor-e-Moosh fronts and that Saddam had despatched 5 divisions and his own Guards force to capture the Meimak fronts.

The Colonel added the forces of the Islamic Republic inflicted heavy casualties on Saddam's forces: 280 PoWs, 800 killed and 60 tanks, were destroyed. Some 20 tanks have been rehabilitated now by our soldiers. You can see them in Barracks No. 2."

Colonel Attarian added that, "We have penetrated into Iraqi territory near Marivan and freed the Nowsud and Nudsheh regions which were being used by the American-aligned and assorted splinter groups."

The Political Executive Deputy of the Kermanshahan Governor General said here that the liberation of the Nudsheh region had cut contact between Saddam and the counterrevolutionary splinter groups. He also added that the Iranians had only used helicopters in these operations. "After the recapturing of Bazi-Deraz, we used choppers, planes and so forth to neutralize the counterattack of the enemy."

He said, "In this war, Saddam has used napalm bombs and toxic and chemical gases and would certainly have used nuclear bombs if he had any."

Colonel Attarian said, "In this war, we are not fighting an ordinary battle. We are in a Holy War, we are in a Jihad. Saddam has not just attacked the borders of Iran, but has attacked the Islamic Revolution of Iran. What drives us Iranians to fight incessantly against this blatant aggression, is the safeguarding the blood of 70,000 martyrs which led to the Revolution's culmination."

Colonel Attarian, while talking about the tactics used in recapturing the Bazi Deraz Heights, reiterated: "The Iraqis are fighting aimlessly. They are just drifters in this war. If in the beginning, we had enjoyed this capability we have now, the Iraqi regime would not have had even the power to talk now. During the preceding 2,500 years, we have never fought like this. We are fighting for God not for people."

Colonel Attarian here pointed to the NBC correspondent in Tehran: "Tell the United States that its AWACS jammed our communication systems two days ago, but we resorted to our human

resources and established contact again. Give whatever you have to the Saudi Kingdom and other countries in the region. For us, dedicated Muslims, will remain with whom we will be able to make the seemingly impossible, possible. Our future goal is Qods and Qasr-e Shirin and Baghdad are just little goals."

Colonel Attarian also emphasized that Saddam has made many mistakes in his own calculations and added that final victory would be on the side of the Muslim forces relying on God and he pointed out that cooperation and coordination existed among the Islamic Revolutionary Guards, the Armed forces and the Mobilization Corps which could now be clearly seen. In conclusion, he pointed out that the Iranian forces refrained from launching any attacks on the Muslim and defenseless people, quite in contrast to what the Iraqi forces were doing. "Our goals are just our enemy's military positions," he said.

According to the Pars correspondent, the reporters visited a place where personnel carrier were being repaired and viewed new military hardware and some 20 captured Iraqi tanks which had been renovated and re-used by the Iranians.

In this visit, the parts manufactured by Iranian military personnel were shown to the newsmen and film-makers.

CSO: 4920/364

GUARDS CORPS REPORTS MASSIVE IRAQI DEFECTIONS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 14 May 81 p 1

[Text]

KERMANSHAH (Pars) - So far, 12,000 Iraqi militarymen fled from Saddam's Army and a number of them sought asylum in Islamic forces and, similarly, 1,000 armed rebels surrendered themselves and received life-security letter from the Revolutionary Guards, it was said yesterday.

A Revolutionary Guards official said yesterday that Nodeheh and Mariwan were the trouble spots inhabitated by and under practical control of the mini-groups but that the cities are now captured by and under total control of Islamic forces.

Meanwhile, the Islamic combatants inflicted heavy damages and casualties on the enemy forces, in the occupied section of Khuzinistahr, and on the opposite bank of the Arvand-Rud in Iraq and in Tir Square in Abadan, on Tuesday and yesterday.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps supported by a number of Navy personnel killed a number of the enemy troops and destroyed three Kalashnikovs, several machine gun positions and two concrete trenches of the enemy troops in the Tir Square of Abadan, some of the enemy soldiers were killed and also one P.M.P. personnel carrier and one munition depot were destroyed by the Fedayeen-e-Islam.

In the occupied section of Khuzinistahr, the Islamic combatants of Iran killed some of the enemy soldiers and also destroyed one observation post, one 18 mm machine-gun position and one gathering place of the enemy, on Tuesday night.

Meanwhile enemy forces shelled the residential areas of Abadan, with their long range artillery inflicting damages on some shops and houses of the city on Tuesday night.

CSO: 4920

COURT TIGHTENS AIRLINE TICKET PROCEDURES

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 13 May 81 p 2

[Text] Tehran--The Prosecutor-Office in an announcement yesterday advised the airline offices and agencies to obtain from the prospective passengers a photo-copy of exit permission in addition to the other documents before issuing a ticket to them, it was revealed yesterday.

The announcement, issued by Seyed Assadollah Lajverdi, Prosecutor of the Islamic Revolutionary Center, said:

"It has been noted lately that airline offices and travel agencies have been issuing tickets for those who are residing abroad which ultimately leave the country through passengers who are departing for abroad.

Since this process has caused the flight of foreign exchange of the country and as a result wastes the national wealth, and is only for the benefit of those who left the country after the revolution and are active against the Islamic Republic. Therefore we deem it necessary to emphatically warn all the travel agencies to stop this practice of issuing tickets at random and ask for a photocopy of exit permit at the time of delivering tickets and keep them ready for usual inspections."

The above mentioned caution are to be observed by one and all, foreign and domestic airline agencies failing which the violators are liable for prosecution by the Islamic Revolution Court.

CSO: 4920

BRIEFS

DEMONSTRATION IN PARIS--Iranian students in France who oppose Khomeyni organized a massive demonstration in front of the Islamic Republic Embassy in Paris. Reports indicate that at about 1100 yesterday morning, a large number of Iranian students and Iranians living in France gathered in front of Khomeyni's embassy in Paris for an orderly and massive demonstration to condemn Khomeyni's regime for the existence of oppression, fascism, and the crushing and killing of freedom-seekers in Iran. Carrying pictures of Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, leader of the National Resistance Movement in Iran, and chanting slogans such as "death to Khomeyni" and "greetings to Bakhtiar," Khomeyni's opponents demonstrated for hours in front of the embassy. In a resolution handed to representatives of Khomeyni's embassy, the demonstrating students strongly condemned the policy on the transfer of money and declared that after the closing of the universities in Iran, Khomeyni's officials now intend to cut the students' foreign exchange allowance in order to stop them from pursuing their studies abroad. As a reminder, for some months now the clergy has been using various methods and excuses to prevent the students' families from transferring money. Reports from reliable sources state that this stems from a general policy aimed at preventing Iranian students from continuing their higher studies. [Text] [NC131956 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 13 May 81]

SUNNI CLERGYMAN EXECUTED--Following the report on the death of Hoseynbor, who was presented by Radio Khomeyni as one of the religious leaders of Sistan Va Baluchestan, reports received indicate that he was one of Khomeyni's lackeys and agents in the area. The day before yesterday a group of Baluchi freedom fighters, who had come to realize the betrayals of this Sunni pseudoclergy, executed him in Saravan. Reports received state that the said pseudoclergy, whose name was Hoseynbor and who had falsely labeled himself a scholar, was bought out 4 months ago by Savama. His mission was to identify Khomeyni's opponents and report on the vast activities of the armed strugglers against officials of Khomeyni's Islamic Republic. In the statement issued by the Baluchi strugglers after his execution, it has been pointed out that each and every traitor should expect the same fate. [Text] [NC141438 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 14 May 81]

REVOLUTION GUARDS EMBEZZLEMENTS--Our correspondent reports from Kerman that after the nationwide purge in the Revolutionary Guards Corps, ordered to be carried out recently by Ayatollah Khomeyni, many cases of (?embezzlement), corruption and inhumane acts by men of this corps have been revealed. Here is an example: An official of one of the Revolutionary Guards Corps units has remarked that an interrogation of men of the corps has revealed that recently dozens of launches and motorboats had been robbed of foodstuffs, clothing, blankets and medicines. These commodities were sent by Iranians living in the sheikhdoms and islands of the Persian Gulf to the war-afflicted people in south Iran. A number of men of the corps, aided by a number of clergymen, were the perpetrators and sold the goods on the black market in areas facing shortages. Up to now a number of storerooms with robbed goods have been found and many more storerooms containing items robbed by the Revolutionary Guards in Isfahan, Kerman and Bushehr still exist. [Text] [NC151333 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 14 May 81]

ICRC PRESIDENT CONDEMNS IRAN--Our correspondent from Paris reports that the president of the International Red Cross Committee has condemned the behavior of the Iranian officials toward delegations sent by this committee to Iran to help war victims. In an interview with a correspondent of the French nationwide television, Mr Alexandre Hay said: Officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran prevent delegations sent by the International Red Cross to go to war-stricken areas and this at a time (?when their services are badly needed). Mr Hay added: In addition to the people injured in the war, people in Kurdish-inhabited areas need medical services. The need for these services in Iran is extremely great because according to reports we have, the Tehran regime's forces carry out attacks against the Kurds but do not publish any reports relating to these incidents. Concluding his remarks, the president of the International Red Cross Commission said: In the past--before Ayatollah Khomeyni's regime--world organizations such as ours, which have been formed with the sole objective of aiding people in areas afflicted by earthquakes, calamities and wars, had an extremely human and respectable relationship with officials of the past regime. [Text] [NC151315 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 14 May 81]

SHAH VISITS SWITZERLAND--World agencies have reported that Reza Pahlavi, the son of the deceased Shah of Iran, has gone to Switzerland to visit the city of Berne. Police officials in Berne have announced that Reza Pahlavi arrived in the city a few days ago. No reports on the reason for Reza Pahlavi's visit have been published so far and it is not known whether Reza Pahlavi will meet and talk with Swiss officials during this visit. [Text] [NC151612 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 15 May 81]

FRENCH BATTLESHIPS DELIVERY HALTED--The French Government has postponed, until further notice, the delivery of small battleships to the Islamic Republic regime. The Voice of Iran correspondent in Paris who reported this news added: A spokesman for the French prime minister [words indistinct] and added that under present conditions no type of arms or war materiel will be exported to Iran. [Text] [NC161601 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 15 May 81]

BALUCHESTAN TENSION--Our correspondent reports from Zahedan that during recent weeks the general situation in Sistan Va Baluchestan area has rapidly become tense. At a seminar of ministers of Raja'i's government, which was recently held in Zahedan, Baluchestan delegate in the Islamic Majlis Mowlavi 'Abdol 'Aziz proposed that it would be better for the revolutionary guardsmen to leave the province so that calm can be restored in the region. Muhammad 'Ali Raja'i did not accept this proposal, and as a result the tension which existed in border cities of this sensitive region increased more each day. Yesterday Mowlavi Seyyed Muhammad Hoseyn Bor, one of the leaders of the Sunni sect in Baluchestan, was murdered by an unidentified person in the horsertown of Saravan. No group has undertaken responsibility for this assassination yet. Armed men of various political groups and Baluchi tribes are patroling the cities. Each day fresh reports are received in clashes between Baluchis and men of the Revolution Guards Corps and the increase in the quantity of arms and ammunition in the hands of the people is remarkable. [Text] [NC131308 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 14 May 81]

POPE'S ASSAILING--A Voice of Iran correspondent has reported from Paris that a commentary carried last night by the French radio on the abortive assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II attributed the engineering of and responsibility for this plot to Ayatollah Khomeyni. The French commentator [words indistinct] said that since coming to power, the Islamic Republic of Iran [words indistinct] to export its revolution abroad in order to increase Shi'ite influence in the world. This plan even includes Turkey. The French commentator said: Since the policy followed by Khomeyni's regime is based on international terrorism, Khomeyni's subversive followers abroad try [words indistinct]. The French radio commentator had no doubts that the Turkish terrorist who attempted to kill Pope John Paul II in the Vatican was enforcing Khomeyni's negative (?ideas). This matter will be further clarified after further investigations. In conclusion, the report stated that Khomeyni and his fanatical followers are trying, through murders and riots, to upset the order and stability of the Western world and to propagate their own (?fanatical) beliefs. Another famous French communist has endorsed this (?fact) in his newspaper and, without naming Ayatollah Khomeyni, implicitly said that the hands of the terrorists of the Islamic Republic can be seen in this criminal act. [Text] [NC161608 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1605 GMT 15 May 81]

STUDENTS IN BONN EMBASSY--Once again one of Khomeyni's embassies in Europe has been occupied by regime opponents. Iranian students and a group of Iranians living in West Germany occupied Khomeyni's embassy in Bonn yesterday morning. Reports indicate that at about 0900 yesterday a large number of Iranians and Iranian students residing in West Germany, protesting the rule of oppression and torture and the absence of political freedom in Iran, attacked the embassy building and occupied it. The students chanted slogans of "death to Khomeyni" and "our struggles will continue until democracy is established." They also issued a resolution warning Khomeyni to free political prisoners as soon as possible. The students tore up Khomeyni's pictures--which these days cover all the walls of Khomeyni's embassies in all forms and colors--and threw them out of the occupied building's windows. The students' resolution also warned that their foreign exchange allowance should be immediately paid to them and that officials of the Islamic Republic should stop obstructing the students' affairs. [Text] [NC161613 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 16 May 81]

SARDASHT PRISON ATTACK--Following the bombing of the Sardasht Prison, the Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] of Iran announced that Iranian helicopter gunships attacked the prison. As a result of this incident, a number of prison officials and Kurdish fighters were killed. The KDP Secretary General Dr Qasemlu stated that the Iranian helicopters, thinking that the prison is the Kurds' training and military center, bombed it, martyring a number of Kurds. Dr Qasemlu described the claims by Khomeyni's regime that the Kurds attacked and bombed the prison with the cooperation of Iraq as baseless. He said that the Sardasht Prison has been in the hands of Kurdish strugglers for 2 years now and [words indistinct] is being guarded by Kurdish forces. Khomeyni's forces, which regularly bomb Kordestan's cities and villages, thought that the Sardasht Prison was one of the Kurds' garrisons and bombed it. There is no reason for a prison, which is under the control of Kurdish strugglers to be bombed by the KDP with Iraqi cooperation. [Text] [NC151714 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 15 May 81]

ATOMIC ENERGY SEMINAR--According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY the seminar of experts and authorities of atomic energy in Iran, which had started in Esfahan, ended by issuing a resolution. In the seminar the possibilities of self-sufficiency in atomic energy in Iran were discussed. [Text] [LD130159 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 May 81 LD]

GENDARMERIE APPOINTMENT--Ayatollah Khomeyni has appointed Gholam Hoseyn Karbaschi as the head of the political-ideological department of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [LD150542 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 May 81 LD]

CSO: 4900/262

INTERVIEW WITH KURDISH LEADER TALABANI

Stockholm KIZGARIYA KURDISTAN in Turkish Mar-Apr 81 pp 5-6, 18, 23

[Second in a series of interviews with Kurdistan Patriotic Union Secretary General Jalal Talabani; place and date of interview not given]

[Text] [Question] We have another question. We know that an intensive armed movement began in Kurdistan after the partition of Kurdistan. There was Sheikh Mahmut Berzenji's movement in the Iraqi part of Kurdistan, for example. As you explained at some length, the movement developed along the lines delineating the partition of Kurdistan. There was the Sheikh Sait uprising in the Turkish part. Then came the Agri and Dersim uprisings. There was the Simko movement in the Iranian part. The movement of the Barzani brothers (Ahmet and Mustafa Barzani) developed in Iraqi Kurdistan after the 1930's.

Why was it after the partition of Kurdistan that all these movements developed in such a widespread, massive way one after another? And in conjunction with this, what were the demands of this second movement? What did these movements want? Did they want a free Kurdistan, or was a big part of it the demand for some democratic rights? What did these movements want to accomplish? And why did they fail? Why were all of them defeated?

Talabani: In my opinion, we have to take a critical look at Kurdish history. To date, we have written no true, orderly, objective Kurdish history. I said in my book that two types of Kurdish history have been written to date. First is that written by the enemy in which everything is negative and bad. Our enemies have always described all Kurdish uprisings, for instance, as pillage, mutiny against the state, banditry, etc. The second is histories of the Kurds written by nationalist, bourgeois Kurds. And these have described everything as positive and good. They praise everything as a national cause.

From this standpoint, no true Kurdish history has yet been written. We have to approach our own history scientifically and objectively. Only in this way will it be possible for the positive aspects of Kurdish history to develop and the negative aspects to avoid repetition.

Carving up Kurdistan -- as I said -- was contrary to the wishes of the people. The people did not want this. And it was natural for the people to rebel and show that they were not resigned to partition. All the hopes of the Kurdish people were

frustrated. There was no longer any question of either the Sevres Treaty nor Wilson's principles on the democratic rights of small nations. All the rights of the Kurdish people were violated. There was injustice.

All the people, as I said, were unhappy about that turn of events. There was great dissatisfaction. Only someone powerful with serious resources could have organized the unhappiness and discontent. Doubtless these would have been the aghas, large tribal chieftains and sheikhs. For example, Sheikh Said had the resources. Sheikh Mahmut, Simko, Sheikh Ahmet Barzani had the resources. They had a great deal of influence. As far as we can see, all the resources and power was in the hands of these people and those who had some religious or social status. At that time, we had neither a strong party nor any developed working class or intelligentsia. There was no question of this type organized struggle in the villages. For this reason, it was quite natural that these influential persons and authorities should organize the existing reactions and discontent and lead the movements.

There were reasons for these so-called revolts which we may say were both national and personal. The best example of the national reasons is the discontent and unhappiness shown by an entire people against the states (Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Britain) which were oppressing Kurdistan. The Kurdish people did not want the oppression and domination of these states. Besides, the tribal chieftains in particular had personal interests at stake. For instance, there were conflicts of interest and territory between the Barzan tribe and the Zibari tribe. And, too, Simko had some interest problems of his own. Of course, it is necessary to bear in mind religious causes also. Religion had an important place in the Sheikh Said and Mahmut Berzenji movements, for example.

As a result, the social conditions and relationships of the time made these people into leaders of Kurdish movements. However, almost all these leaders were behind the times. There was nothing modern about them. And this is why they could not organize their resistance well. They could not do most of the things that an orderly Kurdish resistance required. With whom did these leaders associate and cooperate? With tribal chieftains, aghas and elders. None of them had the ability or position to bring a people's movement to fruition. From their standpoint, the most important thing was their own interests. They were involved in the movement insofar as it served their own interest. They quickly collapsed. They also had constant conflicts among themselves. For example, in the Berzenji movement, there was Talabani in Kirkuk, Muhammed Aga of Ko in Koysancak and Bekir Aga somewhere else. And they were on the side of the British government. In those years, the tribes would not accept each other's leadership. Rather, let me say that a large portion of the other tribes did not support Sheikh Ahmet in the Sheikh Ahmet Barzani movement in the Bahdinan region.

As you well know, this intertribal conflict made the enemy's work easier and was an important factor in the ease with which Kurdistan was partitioned.

These are the reasons why it was impossible for the forces which led the Kurdish movements to succeed. And this is the judgment of history. They did not know how to organize, they could not tell friends from enemies, they did not know what guerrilla warfare was and they were not familiar with politics and international relations. Naturally, no movement having all these drawbacks could be expected to succeed.

[Question] We would like to ask a question at this point. Didn't the leaders of these movements have any class interests? To use Turkish Kurdistan as an example, all power in Kurdistan was in the hands of the Kurds until the establishment of the Turkish Republic and the Treaty of Lausanne. The Kurdish tribal chieftains and elders dominated everything. In any case, direct administration was in the hands of the Kurds though they were bound to the Ottomans. And periodically they paid taxes to the Ottomans. But this situation changed after the founding of the republic. The Turkish state undertook to control Kurdistan and make it an element of its own centralized system. This was directly intended to negate the influence of those Kurds who had been dominant until that time and to make the state the dominant power. Many examples of this could be given which lead to this question: Wasn't there a class aspect in the Kurdish ruling powers' leading the resistance?

[Answer] Certainly there was a question of the class interests of the forces which led the movements. And there was reason for this. But there is one thing we must not ignore. Even the problem of the class interests of these rulers has national implications, because what is at issue is the desire of the Kurdish ruling powers to protect their own areas of influence and relationships from the Turkish ruling powers. That is, resistance against the areas in which the dominant Turkish bourgeoisie tried to gain the upper hand. The conflict, in any case, is a Turkish-Kurdish conflict. National sovereignty is the problem. It is a problem of whether Kurdish rulers or the Turkish state will be sovereign over Kurdistan. From this standpoint, the class demands of the Kurdis rulers and the people's desire to stand up to foreign powers presented a whole at the national base. The character of the resistance is national. Just as the national character of this resistance may be demonstrated through examples, it also includes many other elements. A variety of elements in any popular national movement is natural. But the heart of the problem is nationalism.

[Question] Let us ask yet another question that has to do with this one. How involved were those who led these movements in ideology, politics and organization? Or, rather, what were the leaders' position on these matters?

[Answer] None of the leaders that we are talking about knew anything about these matters. Their knowledge about the problems of politics, ideology and organization was nil. The one most familiar with these matters was Sheikh Mahmut Barzanji. I think that Sheikh Mahmut was more intelligent and knowledgeable than the others. He was familiar with the problems of the Kurds and Kurdistan. He knew them. Sheikh Ahmet, for instance, did not. The size, interests, territory and conflicts with other tribes of the Barzani tribe were what was important to him. To him, the Zibari tribe was bad. It was impossible for him to work side by side with the Zibari tribe, no matter what the reason. He had a local, tribal outlook only. Sheikh Mahmut, on the other hand, understood and gave thought to such matters as establishing a Kurdistan, ruling Kurdistan, appointing a government, printing money, publishing newspapers, etc. Despite this, he hardly understood anything at all about the meaning and importance of politics, ideology and my interest in organization. I do not think that Sheikh Sait was even interested in these matters. These things were discussed primarily among Kurdish students and officers. There were even some student and officer organizations. But the movements developed with them on the outside and the leaders we have mentioned directed the movements.

[Question] It is necessary also to look at the view of imperialism of these movements and leaders. In your opinion, what did the leaders of these movements think about imperialism? Did they have relations with imperialism? And what did imperialism itself think about these Kurdish movements?

[Answer] I do not think that these Kurdish movements and their leaders knew what imperialism or capitalism was. They did not know why the processes of capitalism and imperialism were outward-looking, why they exported capital or what sort of policy they pursued on a world scale. The leaders we are talking about thought that states other than themselves were "strong states" and that they could establish a Kurdistan with their help. They thought that the British, the French, the Russians would help the Kurds.

However, it would be wrong to say that these Kurdish leaders wanted to be Britain, France or Russia's man in Kurdistan. They figured that Kurdistan existed and they would be able to have their own rights, and that some of the strong states would be able to help in this.

The strong states in the Middle East at that time were Britain, France and Russia (Tsarist). The Kurds thought they could get help from them, but they did not know about the colonialist relationships and the political maneuvering of imperialism. Of course, the imperialist states "played with" the Kurdish problem from time to time in conjunction with their Middle East ploys. For example, Britain used the Kurdistan problem as a means of creating the conditions for a strong Turkish state attached to itself. Using the Kurdistan problem left the Turks in a difficult situation and caused the Turks to accept all of its demands. It played the same game in Iraq, saying, for instance, "If Iraq does not help Britain and accept its demands, the British will aid the Kurds and ensure that the Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan get their rights." So Iraq accepted this British ultimatum. Instead of establishing relations with the Kurds in Kurdistan and giving them their rights, Iraq accepted Britain's yoke, supposedly protecting the "unity of the state." This plan was the same used against Mustafa Kemal. This was the reason why the Mosul problem was in suspense for a while, then suddenly collapsed after Turkey became a total British outpost. The Simko movement in Iran was one reason for the British improvement of their relations with Iran. The British got Reza Khan to accept all their conditions with Simko as the pretext.

Of course, the false conclusion must not be drawn from all these explanations that Sheikh Sait, Sheikh Mahmut, Simko and the other Kurdish leaders were imperialism's men. No, they definitely were not imperialism's men. They were not anybody's men or anybody's lackey. To be exact, they were their own men.

However, they were politically ignorant and inept and knew nothing about the maneuvering of imperialism, and this made imperialism's work easier as well as that of the states which partitioned Kurdistan.

It is necessary to say definitely, however, that these Kurdish leaders we are talking about were patriotic and nationalistic.

[Question] One feature of these Kurdish national resistance movements strikes the eye first thing: the massive participation of the tribes in the movements. But while one group of tribes took part in a movement, another took part in a direct counter movement, cooperating with the oppressing state. In your opinion, was this situation a result of the social structure and relationships in Kurdistan at the time?

[Answer] There are rather a lot of reasons for this situation as I see it. There were many reasons for the tribes to work both within the movement and against it.

Some of the tribes which favored the movement did so out of religious conviction and some because men of religion were leading the Kurdish movement. The influence in Kurdish society of the religious leaders and sheikhs is known. The connection of these religious men with the Kurdish problem, their presentation of national demands and active work influenced the tribes under their religious leadership. For example, some tribes were under the influence of Sheikh Mahmut, some of Sheikh Sait, some of the Barzanis. The participation of these tribes in the movements brought reactions from another group of tribes which were their enemies. The tribes which reacted would not accept domination by the tribes in the movement. Ignorance, selfishness and putting everything in the light of tribal interests placed the tribes which reacted this way among the ranks of the enemy.

Let us give a concrete example. In the Barzani uprising, the Barzani tribe was the enemy of all the other tribes around (Biradost, Lor, Zibari and others). The Barzani tribe looked upon them, and they looked upon the Barzani tribe, as enemies. These surrounding tribes did not help in the Barzani uprising. On the contrary, they hoped for a rout of the uprising and the defeat of the Barzanis. Their rationale was very simple: To seize the Barzanis' land, property, dominion and influence! To increase their own influence and effectiveness! Thus it was a question of blind enmity.

The enemy, well aware of this meaningless tribal enmity, used it constantly. He aided the tribes which were enemical to the movements, armed them and permitted them better living conditions. He constantly fanned the flames of intertribal conflict.

Another problem in this regard was the social structure of Kurdistan itself. Kurdistan had a tribal structure. Tribal relations predominated. It is difficult to ensure social unity in places where tribal relationships are the rule. Various intertribal conflicts are perpetual.

[Question] Did these movements have relations with the outside world?

[Answer] Yes, they did. The establishment of relations with the outside world started originally with Sheikh Ubeydullah. There was a book (in 1876) named "Kurdistan and the Kurds" by a German author. (This book was translated and published in Suleimaniyah.) The book said that Sheikh Ubeydullah established relations with the outside world. Sheikh Ubeydullah is said to have had relations at that time with the Russians, the Americans (around Urmuyi) and the British. According to the book, Shiekh Ubeydullah's purpose was to inform the outside world of the Kurdish problem and to build a stronger position by establishing relations. Jafer Agha of Sikak also attempted this. He established relations with Russia. Or, let us say, the Bedirhanis variously established relations with the Russians.

There were also at that time some troubles between the Armenians and the Kurds. These two peoples were each fighting for their own people, but there were important conflicts between them. The Armenians were a more advanced society than the Kurds. There are accounts of exploitation of Kurdistan by the ruling Armenian powers. As known, the first stage of capitalism is the overweening desire of the bourgeoisie to exploit and dominate. For this reason, the Kurds were cautious of the Armenians. In addition, the Kurdish ruling powers in particular harbored feelings of enmity against the Armenians. Propaganda was conducted against the Armenians as "infidels," etc.

8349
CSO: 4907/250

PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS IN TOURIST INDUSTRY CITED

Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Apr 81 p 6

[Article: "Private Sector Invests 150 Million Dinars in Hotel Field"]

[Text] During the past 5-year plan, hotel capacity in Jordan has increased by 100 percent and investments in this field by the private sector have totaled about 150 million dinars.

Statistics from the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities show that in 1976 hotel capacity was 1,553 rooms with 3,033 beds and that this figure had risen in 1980 to 3,459 rooms with 7,000 beds.

The figures showed an increase in the number of workers in hotel establishments to 3,753 workers from 1,080 in 1976.

Sources in the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities attributed this jump to the support and facilities provided by certain quarters to investors in the tourism sector besides the fact that tourism projects had been given priority in water and electric services, reads and communications as projects economically ratified by the committee for encouragement of investment.

These sources say that in conformity with the investment law, hotel establishments were allowed duty-free import of most of their requirements as well as being given exemptions from income tax for 7 years for those in the capital and 9 years for those outside it.

The sources stress that investment in the hotel field is characterized by a rapid return and circulation, studies having shown that the tourist dollar turns over five times a year and this confirms that investment in this sector is guaranteed to show a profit.

These sources say that the political and economic stability enjoyed by Jordan has helped the Jordanian tourist traffic, Jordan having become a major tourist attraction in the Middle East.

Ministry sources indicated that tourist traffic in Jordan will experience continued growth and that this will require a commensurate expansion in hotel facilities, particularly in the tourist and archeological areas outside the capital, something that will provide new investment opportunities in this sector.

They say that the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities will confine itself to planning and overseeing the hotel projects which the private sector will launch, this sector having established its capability for effective implementation, management and participation in the growth of the Jordanian economy.

8389
CSO: 4802/658

ELECTRIC COMPANY PROFITS, PROJECTS FOR 1980

Amman AL-DASTUR in Arabic 12 Apr 81 p 5

/Article: "Electric Power Brought to 15,000 Customers; Company Shows 718,000 Profits for 1980"/

/Text/ The Jordanian Electric Co, Ltd last year showed a profit of 718,000 dinars for distribution at a rate of 11 percent of paidup capital. The company's annual report stated that during that past year 5,267 new poles had been installed, about 1 million meters of copper wire laid and 3,429 lighting units installed, making the total lighting units in the Kingdom about 34,000.

Power consumption was broken down as follows:

Hospitals and places of worship--12.9 percent

Street lighting--1.9 percent

Radio and television--1.1 percent

Residences and public buildings--46.5 percent

Hotels, restaurants and business places--15.5 percent

Industrial projects--22.1 percent.

The report stated that last year the company had hooked up electric power to 15,460 new customers, the total number of customers receiving electricity having risen to 150,765 as of the end of last year.

Power purchased from the electric authority totaled about 610 million kilowatt hours and power distributed totaled about 558 million kilowatt hours.

The report said that a total of about 26,000 kilometers of aboveground transmission lines were installed and electrified and about 97,000 kilometers of underground cables were installed and electrified. Also 77 transformer main and sub-stations were constructed.

8390
CSO: 4802/658

WATER, IRRIGATION PROJECTS FOR SOUTHERN REGION DISCUSSED

Amman AL-DASTUR in Arabic 12 Apr 81 p 5

[Article by Hamid al-Sa'ayidah: "Digging New Artesian Wells in Ma'an; Expansion in Desert Irrigation Projects and Use of Qa' al-Disi Water"]

[Text] The southern region water committee held a meeting yesterday at the Directorate of Regional Planning in Amman during which it discussed the recommendations of the chief water planner in Jordan regarding the southern region and the proposals involving the program for searching for water on the basis of the recommendations from the chief water planner in Jordan. The plan for searching for water which was submitted to the committee stated:

Hydrological studies by the chief planner of the Ma'an-Ra's al-Naqab area had defined four areas suitable for prospecting for underground water.

The first area is located about 10 kilometers northwest of Ma'an, the second area is located about 20 kilometers southwest of Ma'an, the third is located about 15 kilometers southeast of Ma'an while the fourth area is located 40-60 kilometers southeast of Ma'an.

Numerous approaches can be used in all four areas to prospect for underground water, including seismic tests, geo-electric tests, drilling, pumping tests, computer models, etc.

Financing the Project

With regard to financing the project, no less than five wells must be drilled in each area at depths ranging from 100 to 250 meters and this will cost from 1 to 1.5 million dinars. Priorities for drilling in the areas must be subject to considerations of the economic development planned for each area.

Agricultural activities which depend on irrigation and rainfall will also in the future be confined to small, isolated areas and, therefore, it is still out of the question for agriculture to be of tangible assistance in the development of the region.

Qa' Al-Disi

Among the projects for desert irrigation, the Qa' al-Disi area project should be given special attention within the framework of the regional plan was supposed to have provided up to now a primary agricultural source of crops that were scheduled to be marketed in the markets of al-'Aqabah but these projections need a review so as to take into consideration the underground water (so far discovered) in Qa' al-Disi as well as the annual commitments to supply water to al-'Aqabah which have begun to exceed previous estimates.

It would appear that industrial development and related facilities as well as the services sector are still concentrated in the al-'Aqabah area. It is expected that another source for this development, along with its infrastructure, will be in al-Shidiyah. It has been reported that the phosphate mines can begin operations there in the near future. The demand for water for these operations can be met from the sources of these organizations themselves which intend to use the underground water sources and similar arrangements can be applied to the al-Hasa mines.

Large quantities of water can be drawn from underground water sources in al-Shidiyah (4-5 million cubic meters a year) and this must be controlled because of its effect on adjacent water tables and the needs of other organizations for it.

It should be noted that the network for carrying water from Qa' al-Disi to al-'Aqabah which is scheduled for completion in mid-1981 will have a capacity of 17.5 million cubic meters a year. This capacity (plus the continued drawing of about 2 million cubic meters of water a year from existing wells in Wadi Ya'in) is expected to meet projected requirements of the residential and industrial sectors in al-'Aqabah, including the requirements of the chemical fertilizer plant which will run from 5 to 8 million cubic meters a year. These needs are projected on the basis of a population of 60,000 persons in the 90's and more than 80,000 persons after the year 2000.

The projects to survey underground water will take a considerable amount of money, technical knowhow and time and the results may show nothing positive in the short term. However, compared with this, the planning and implementation of plans for the region will take considerable time and so the search for sources of underground water must start as soon as possible and must continue. This will permit exploitation of probable sources regional development programs and will allow a start on these programs or modification of them on the basis of the prospecting results. Prospecting operations for sources of underground water will definitely go beyond the scope of the developmental and environmental studies of the southern region. This therefore must fall within the scope of prospecting for water throughout Jordan. However, if prospecting operations in the southern region are given a specific priority, that would certainly give effective assistance to achieving another goal of development policies, that is, balancing regional development throughout the Kingdom.

The committee which is chaired by Eng Ibrahim al-'Atur, undersecretary of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs, includes representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Planning Council, the Jordan Valley Authority, the Drinking Water Organization and the Natural Resources Authority.

Present at the meeting was Dr Sufyan al-Tal, director of the Regional Planning Department.

8389
CSO: 4802/658

BRIEFS

PLO REPRESENTATIVE--Doha, 21 May (QNA)--In a dispatch from Amman, the Qatari newspaper AL-RAYAH has said that the PLO will soon issue a decree appointing Hani al-Hasan as the PLO's representative extraordinary to Jordan. The paper mentioned that Hani al-Hasan has conveyed to Yasir 'Arafat, PLO executive committee chairman, Jordan's approval of his nomination as the PLO's representative in Amman. This approval was given during Al-Hasan's recent visit to Jordan and his meetings with his majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials. AL-RAYAH has learned that Al-Hasan will commence his work in Amman as of the beginning of June. [Text] [JN211540 Doha QNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 May 81]

CSO: 4802/711

BRIEFS

FRENCH, ITALIAN HELICOPTERS DELIVERED--AL-KHALIJ has learned that 15 French and Italian helicopters have reached Juniyah port, which has been under the control of separatists for quite some time. National monitoring sources have told AL-KHALIJ that Israeli officers in the FRC have ended a course in which they were training a number of Phalangists to fly helicopters. The sources said Bashir al-Jumayyil and Phalangist Party leaders have assigned bases for these helicopters in Juniyah, Kasrawan, (Jarud)--in Qada' Jubayl--and in the high northern region of Qada' al-Matn. The sources have affirmed that the Arab deterrent force's control of Jabal Sannin has foiled Phalangist plans to use helicopters against Lebanese national movement forces and the Palestinian resistance. [Text] [GF2115... al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 20 May 81 p 1]

INFORMATION MINISTER OUTLINES GOVERNMENT POLICIES

AB141202 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 14 May 81

[Interview with the CMSN Permanent Secretary for Information, Major Sidina Ould Sidya by unidentified questioner on 13 May 1981 in Nouakchott]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Permanent Secretary of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN], the government has just drawn up an important plan of action. It was adopted during the last cabinet meeting. Can you explain the outlines of the program to us?

[Answer] I think that in order to better understand the program, it is worth recalling the serious (?difficulties) facing the country both internally and externally. Internally, the situation is marked by the mounting tension in the subregion caused especially by Moroccan hegemony and aggressive expansionism whose main target is Mauritania. The cowardly aggression of 16 March was an eloquent demonstration of that policy. Nothing points to a change for the better in the stands of Morocco toward our country. For if Morocco maintains its (?adventurism), it is because it has no other intention than to check our assertive determination to preserve our independence. We will always maintain this determination in spite of all opposition. That is a fundamental point to take into consideration, along with other internal factors including the persistant conflict in the Western Sahara which poses permanent threats to the subregion and extends risks to other states.

Another difficulty is the economic crisis with its aftermath on our economy and development. This is aggravated by the determination of developed countries to maintain and strengthen their active domination of the (?Third World). So internally, we are facing a (?difficult), even serious, situation.

Rural development will take a priority position in our action. We will thus set up an adequate framework and there will be appropriate land reform. We will also establish an agricultural credit bank. At the same time we will encourage higher productivity in rural areas, revive the cooperative program and create the necessary facilities for training and counseling farmers as well as the distribution of their products.

It must, however, be recalled that the Saharan war and the systematic mismanagement of the former administration as well as the prevailing drought in the region will still affect our economy over a long period. This is all the more true as the world economic crisis continues to worsen.

However, our policy of austerity remains a fundamental option aimed at reorganizing our public finances, absorbing the deficit and making the necessary financial resources available in order to promote a solid and independent economy.

[Question] Mr Permanent Secretary, is the government's plan of action (consistent with) the new trends in our foreign policy?

[Answer] In this regard, our policy is aimed at consolidating our independence and national sovereignty. At the same time we endeavor to strengthen our bonds of friendship and cooperation with all the countries that show respect for our choice, especially with our African and Arab brother countries.

Moreover, our neutrality toward the warring parties in the Sahara remains a fundamental pillar of our foreign policy. Such neutrality toward the belligerents--Morocco and the Polisario front--should not be taken as a lack of concern on the part of Mauritania over a conflict opposing two brotherly, Arab and African peoples along its borders. There is no denying that our country will continue its efforts--especially within the framework of the OAU--to find a fair and lasting solution to this grievous conflict.

Given this, it must be understood once and for all that, in compliance with our policy of neutrality, our relations with both belligerents will only depend on their attitude toward Mauritania and on their respect for our sovereignty and independence. In this regard, our relations with Morocco have deteriorated recently because that country is maintaining a policy of aggression against our country and interference in our internal affairs.

CSO: 4600/66

SOCIALIST INVITATION INTO GOVERNMENT

LD1-1539 Paris LE MONDE in French 14 May 81 p 3

[Unsigned by "B.D.": "Morocco--the Government Brings Libel Action Against Socialist Opposition Newspaper"]

[Text] Rabat--Will the French presidential election results influence Moroccan domestic policy? Observers who are in a good position to judge this are saying that the king will have to "revise his calculations" and that he may invite the socialists to take part in a new government. The Socialist Union of Popular Forces [USFP] could, however, set conditions since it has declared its intention of leaving parliament next September at the latest to protest the decision to prolong the existing Assembly's term by 2 years--a decision taken by referendum last May.

At present the government seems to be taking a rather tougher line: it is bringing a libel action against AL-MOHARIR, the big socialist opposition newspaper. The daily is accused of libel and of undermining the dignity of an Arab head of state because it printed a simple AFP dispatch on 23 April giving an ironic description of the unprecedented ostentation of the wedding of the eldest son of Shaykh Layid, president of the United Arab Emirates--a wedding which cost a mere $35 million. Mr Yazghi, USFP Politburo member, socialist press editor and deputy, was promptly questioned by the police on Tuesday, 5 May, and a request for parliamentary immunity to be lifted has apparently even been submitted to Mr Ould Sidi Baba, president of the Moroccan Chamber of Representatives.

It has also been noted in Rabat that no socialist deputy was involved in the great diplomatic campaign launched by King Hassan II to explain Morocco's stance on the West Sahara affair throughout the world.

CSO: 4900/64

OAPEC PARTICIPATION IN DUBAI DRY DOCK CITED

Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 7 May 81 p 3

[Text] Kuwait, May 6 (WAM) The ministerial council of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) concluded its meeting here this afternoon.

The Emirates News Agency (WAM) learns that the council discussed a paper presented by the UAE on linking the dry dock in Dubai with the Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company (ASRY) affiliated to OAPEC.

The council decided to set up a committee with representatives from the UAE and Bahrain to work out details for the proposed linkage by putting the Dubai dry dock under the supervision of OAPEC or through OAPEC's participation in it. The committee is to prepare a report in this regard and submit the same to OAPEC's ministerial council at its meeting in December.

The council elected three new members to OAPEC's legal authority, thus raising its members to nine. The authority will assume its duties in settling disputes that might arise between the OPEC member states and its companies affiliated to it or other foreign companies at the request of any of the member-states.

The discussion also covered the construction of a dry dock in Algeria. In this regard the ministerial council approved the UAE's proposal for setting up special committee with representatives from Algeria, Libya and Bahrain to follow up this subject. It allocated 200,000 Kuwaiti dinars for finalising studies on the proposed dry dock.

As regards preparation for the Second Arab energy conference scheduled in Doha next March, the council decided to send delegations to visit member Arab states for finalising the studies and the Qatari papers to be presented before the conference.

The Council also reviewed the executive steps for establishing the Arab Training Institute in Baghdad and considered a report in this regard, which proposed raising the institute's estimated cost from 12 million dollars to 66 million, and decided to set up a special committee for reassessment of the projected institute and its costs which the council considered very high.

The ministerial council endorsed OAPEC's general budget and closing accounts for 1980.

CSO: 4820/364

VARIOUS PROJECTS TO DISPOSE OF GAS, PRODUCE CHEMICALS SURVEYED

Dubai AL-BAYAN in Arabic 4 May 81 p 3

/Article: "Gas and the World: Most Arab Petrochemical Projects Are /Still/ on Paper; There Is No Alternative to Cooperation To Obtain the Best Use of Gas"/

/Text/ In previous instalments of this study, we have concentrated on gas use projects in the Arab nation, especially liquefaction and ammonia fertilizer manufacturing projects.

We have stated that ammonia fertilizer production is to be considered one of the best uses of gas resources because the yield from it is not just embodied in financial returns--it also realizes an important strategic goal, which is that of participating in the attainment of self sufficiency in food for the Arab nation.

However, the ammonia fertilizer industry is wholly linked to petrochemical industries--indeed, it is considered a part of them. What are the projects based on petrochemicals in the Arab nation?

Petrochemicals

The fact is that the petrochemical industries that rely on natural gas use started only lately in the Arab world and planning for most of the projects which exist now began after 1973. In reviewing the projects which have actually been carried out, we find that they are very few; most of them still are in the planning stage and some of them are still on paper.

One of the most important petrochemical projects now being carried out in the Arab world is the Skikda petrochemical complex project in Algeria, which has actually started producing. This project produces:

140,000 tons of ethylene a year;
48,000 tons of polyethylene a year;
35,000 tons of polyvinyl chloride a year.

In Algeria there also is a methanol plant whose productive capacity totals 100,000 tons a year.

In Libya, a methanol plant has been built in Marsa Brega with a productive capacity of 330,000 tons per year.

Country	Site	Petrochemicals (thousands of tons)				
		Ethylene	Methanol	Polyethylene	Ethylene Dichloride	Polyvinyl Chloride
Saudi Arabia	al-Jubayl					
	Yanbu'					
	al-Dammam	1,506	1,300	640	454	--
Bahrain		--	330	--	--	--
Kuwait	al-Shu'aybа	--	--	--	--	--
Qatar	Umm Sa'id	280	--	140	--	--
United Arab Emirates	al-Ruways					
	Jabal 'Ali	--	--	--	--	--
Iraq	Basrah					
	Kahwr al-Zubayr	135	--	90	--	60
Egypt	Suez					
	Talkha					
	Abu Qir	--	--	--	--	--
Libya	Marsa Brega					
	Ra's Lanuf	--	330	--	--	--
Algeria	Arzew					
	Skikda					
	Annaba	140	100	48	--	35

Table Cont'd

Country	Site	(Petrochemicals (thousands of tons)			Fertilizer	Metals	
		Styrene	Ethylene Glycol	Ethanol	Ammonia (1000 tons)	Iron (1000 tons)	Aluminum (1000 tons)
Saudi Arabia	al-Jubayl Yanbu' al-Dammam	615	500	281	707	850	325
Bahrain		--	--	--	272	--	220
Kuwait	al-Shu'aybah	--	--	--	815	--	--
Qatar	Umm Sa'id	--	--	--	488	400	--
United Arab Emirates	al-Ruways Jabal 'Ali	--	--	--	370	800	135
Iraq	Basrah Khawr al-Zubayr	--	--	--	1,360	600	120
Egypt	Suez Talkha Abu Qir	--	--	--	1,187	--	--
Libya	Marsa Brega Ra's Lanuf	--	--	--	544	--	--
Algeria	Arzew Skikda Annaba	--	--	--	1,088	--	--

This is as far as the petrochemical projects which have been carried out and are actually producing go. As regards projects which are still in the planning and execution stage, perhaps the most important is the one for which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is planning, to use dry gases produced by the fields in the Eastern Province. The following table shows the most important petrochemical projects based on gas in the Arab nation.

Gas Has Not Played Its Part

In Table One, which the Secretariat General of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) has prepared, we find that natural gas, which is present in large quantities in these Arab oil countries, has not played the part expected of it in the petrochemical industry, which can represent the most exemplary, soundest way to use these Arab natural gas resources.

Meanwhile, we find that there is a tendency to predominantly use this gas in the iron and steel and aluminum industries. Here the gas is used as fuel. Iran and steel and aluminum projects are generally based on importing these two materials as ore and they are processed in these Arab countries through the use of the natural gas available.

This most assuredly would be better than liquefying the gas and exporting it to consuming countries, but we still believe that the petrochemical industries must be the best means for all these Arab gas-producing countries to take the optimum advantage of this natural gas.

Aluminum Production

Through the table, we see that there are Arab aluminum manufacturing projects of recent vintage--that is, which date since 1975 in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates, while the productive capacity of the ammonia fertilizer plants will come to about 7 million tons a year after 1982.

However, there is another area in which natural gas is used in the Arab countries on a broad scale, and that is in households and public utilities.

Uses of Gas

Natural gas is used on a broad scale in Arab countries in electric generation and water desalination activities as is the case in Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Use for household purposes has been achieved only in Algeria, where there is an extensive network to bring gas to homes and public utilities.

However, what is unfortunate is that although some Arab oil- and gas-producing countries burn much natural gas, they are still using oil products as fuel to operate their electric plants, whereas the use of gas would enable them to use their flared gas resources to produce electricity.

The state of the United Arab Emirates has devoted attention to this fact and has proceeded to use gas lines from the fields to the electric power generating plants

in Abu Dhabi and al-Ruways. The use of gas to produce electric power is to be considered a good use of this resource as well; one must expand the process of using this natural gas to generate electric power, which can be converted into many industrial projects as well, as much as possible.

Optimum Use

In conclusion, we can summarize, from this study, that is is essential to accelerate the use of natural gas in the Arab nation, preserve it and save it from the gross waste it is now suffering from through flaring.

If we want to order priorities for this use, they will be as follows:

1. Expansion of the fertilizer industry.

2. Expansion of other petrochemical industries.

3. Expansion of local gas use to generate electricity for household uses.

4. Export.

5. Reinjection.

Will it, however, be possible for these projects based on natural gas to be carried out on a countrywide basis--that is, will it be possible for each Arab country to establish projects to manufacture fertilizer and petrochemical, iron and aluminum projects in the desired manner by itself?

Here we must acknowledge that these projects will fail if they are established in the absence of cooperation and coordination among countries. This is an important aspect of our subject, but we will not enter into the details of it now--we will leave it to other investigators, in hopes that they will receive assignments from the Arab governments themselves so that their research may be the proper path along which these Arab countries may travel toward the most general and comprehensive exploitation, achieving the greatest possible benefit from our natural gas resources.

11887
CSO: 4802/696

BRIEFS

MONETARY COOPERATION URGED--Governors of central banks and directors of monetary authorities in the Arab Gulf states have affirmed the importance of coordination in financial and monetary policies to create and promote economic development in the area. At the end of their 2-day meeting in Abu Dhabi yesterday, the governors also stressed the need for promoting commercial and financial exchange among the Gulf states. They also agreed on supporting the national banking institutions and providing them with their needs of national specialists. An official spokesman said that the bank governors had taken a number of measures to make the banking cooperation plans a reality. The governors have also passed resolutions regarding the establishment of the regional institution for bank training. It has also been agreed that the ninth meeting of the central bank governors be held in Kuwait in December. The conference was opened on Saturday by 'Abd al-Malik al-Hamar, governor of the UAE Central Bank, and was attended by representatives from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq, Bahrain and Oman. [Text] [GF181243 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 18 May 81 p 1]

AMOTCO PLANS BUDGET--A spokesman for the Arab Maritime Oil Transporting Company announced last week that the budget of the company for the last fiscal year has reached 552 million dollars, six million dollars lower than that of 1979. The spokesman told KUNA that the general assembly of the company would meet next May to endorse this budget. The company board of directors met in Kuwait last week under the chairmanship of the Saudi undersecretary of the petroleum ministry, Abdul Aziz Al Turky. The spokesman explained that reduction in the company's budget was due to financial commitments with shipyards which the company had to meet. He added that the Board of Directors has decided to pay expenses of 25 students who were transferred from the Arab Maritime Academy in Cairo to the new headquarters in Sharjah emirate. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 4 Apr 81 p 20]

BANK COORDINATION MEETINGS--This 16 May,the eighth meeting of the governors of central banks and directors of monetary organizations of Arab Gulf states will be held in Abu Dhabi. In the meeting, which is to last 2 days, banking and financial developments in the member countries will be reviewed and a working paper presented by the emirate and Bahrain delegations on regional cooperation in the domain of banking supervision and the exchange of information among member countries will be discussed. The people at the meeting will discuss a comparative study presented by the emirates' delegation on the Arab Gulf countries' systems for supervising banks and will also discuss a draft presented by the delegation from the state of Bahrain on banking facilities among central banks and monetary institutions in the Arab Gulf states. In the meeting there will also be a discussion of the draft of a system for settling payments among Gulf states and a draft for a regional bank training institute in the Gulf states. Participating in the meetings, alongside the emirates, will be the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Iraq. These meetings will be held periodically every 6 months. The last meeting was held in Doha. In another area, a symposium will begin today in Doha on central bank surveillance in which delegates of the Arab Gulf states' central banks and monetary institutions will take part. An official Qatar Monetary Organization source stated yesterday that this symposium was taking place in execution of the resolutions of the governors of the central banks at their seventh meeting in Doha last December. The symposium, which is to last 2 days, will discuss three subjects --the basic notions of bank surveillance, inspection of banks as field surveillance, and bank surveillance systems. /Text/ /al-Sharjah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 5 May 81 p 2/ 11887

CSO: 4802/696

'COMPLETE SUPPORT' FOR SYRIAN STAND DECLARED

JN2011656 Doha QNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 20 May 81

[Text] Doha, 20 May (QNA)--Qatar has announced its strong denunciation of the Israeli attacks and violations against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, attacks which are growing uglier day by day, and has reiterated the Qatari people's complete support for the two peoples and their heroic struggle in the defense of their entities and rights.

In a statement issued today following its weekly meeting under Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifan Ibn Hamad al Thani, the Qatari cabinet also affirmed its complete support for Syria's legitimate stand in defense of its own and the Arab nation's dignity.

The cabinet's statement appealed to the Lebanese people to proceed to achieve national accord and end the bloody clashes which are only wasting the potentials needed by Lebanon itself and by the Arab nation in their struggle against the treacherous Zionist aggression against Arab territories and rights.

The cabinet appealed to the international community to immediately adopt the necessary procedures to deter Israel and put an end to its tyranny, which has exceeded all bounds and is manifested through its attempts to eradicate Arab dignity and rights and [word indistinct] the cultural and human heritage.

The cabinet warned in its statement that these Israeli attacks are seeking to fabricate a crisis with Syria in an attempt to confront Syria's pan-Arab role in Lebanon, to exploit this crisis in order to strike at the Palestinian resistance and to impede the joint Lebanese and Arab efforts being exerted to maintain Lebanon's unity and safeguard its sovereignty, Arabism and independence.

CSO: 4920/71

ACCOUNT OF SA'UD AL-FAYSAL'S VISIT TO ITALY

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 8 Jan 81 p 19

[Article by Badi' Hasan, AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM's correspondent in Rome: "What Was Achieved by Sa'ud al-Faysal's Visit to Italy?"]

[Text] There Is International Interest in the Moslem-Christian Meeting in the Vatican.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, recently made an official visit to Italy which lasted 2 days. During this visit he met with various Italian leaders as well as with Pope John Paul II.

On the day before the visit began, Saudi Arabia, through its ambassador in Rome, Mr Khalid al-Turki, presented a check of $10 million to the president of Italy. The purpose of the check from Saudi Arabia was to help the victims of the earthquakes which took place in southern Italy.

Large Official Reception

The Saudi foreign minister met with a large official reception in (Shampino) Airport. The person at the head of the reception was Mr Emilio Colombo, the foreign minister of Italy. After the reception, the two ministers immediately left for the Foreign Ministry Building where the two parties held their first round of official talks which lasted for 3 hours. During this first round of discussions, they presented in comprehensive form their points of view with regard to the Middle East problem. The discussions also dealt with bilateral relations between the two countries.

When the two parties discussed the Middle East issue during their discussion of political matters, the Saudi foreign minister expressed his deep concern regarding the stagnation which has come to dominate that difficult crisis. He said: "This is attributable to Israeli expansionist policy. This has always been Israel's policy since it was created. At the same time, though, world public opinion has fortunately changed its point of view with regard to the Arab countries. The whole world has become aware of the stubbornness and extremism of the Jewish state--stubbornness and extremism which break the will of the Arabs who are seeking a just peace." Then the head of the Saudi Diplomatic Corps added: "For this reason it is difficult to set up a program of negotiations with Israel." This was Prince

Sa'ud's principal opening remark during the discussions. Then he brought up the "key" topic, i.e., the Camp David agreements or, rather what has taken place since the Camp David agreements. The Saudi prince asked: "What are the Camp David agreements, if not simply an American attempt to arrive at a peaceful solution in return for psychological security? Was Israel prepared to return the occupied territories? This is not what happened. On the contrary, Israel, under the camouflage of negotiations, doubled its military expenditures and adopted an even more hostile position toward both Lebanon and Syria. All Camp David did was to create disunity in the Arab world. This has further deepened the conviction of the Israeli government that it will be able to hold on to the occupied Arab territories during these tense times as long as it maintains its stubbornness."

This is a negative verdict concerning the accomplishments achieved by Carter, Sadat, and Begin. The Saudi foreign minister held a similar view concerning the position taken by the nine countries which met in the conference at Venice. He said: "It is a position which has been a result of the positive changes which have taken place in European public opinion and is a result of the conviction that the crux of the problem today is how to convince Israel [to change its policy]. The Arabs, however, feel that they have done everything that they are able to do."

The Saudi foreign minister also said: "The political solution consists of guaranteeing solutions arrived at by an international summit meeting which would obligate other countries to accept them. Any sensible solution must have the participation of the Europeans and the U.S. As far as Riyadh is concerned, the West bears a historic responsibility (starting with the Balfour Declaration and ending with the creation of the State of Israel), and the West also has an interest in solving the crisis. The USSR, however, has a different position. Although the Russians bear part of the responsibility, they are not interested in creating a solution. In fact, it is in their interest to have the opposite of that. That is, they want the situation to remain unsolved. The correct road to the solution is that which stipulates self-determination for the Palestinians and withdrawal by the Israelis from the occupied territories."

In response to this, Emilio Colombo said: "Italy's policy with regard to the Middle East problem has always been based on the necessity for arriving at an overall solution. For this reason, Camp David was not something entirely negative. One positive aspect of Camp David, for example, was the establishment of the principle which says: 'Without the West and the U.S. no progress toward peace can be achieved.' And even though Camp David was insufficient, still it performed the service of bringing in Washington to play a leading role in the search for the solution to the problem.

Colombo added: "It is certainly probable that the Russians have no interest in finding a solution. It is the West which has an interest in this. For this reason, the Europeans are trying to bring their policies closer in line with the Americans concerning the issues which have been brought up, because this is the correct way to lead Israel to accept fundamental and comprehensive solutions. Right now a peaceful solution to the problem revolves around four basic objectives:

1. Withdrawal from the occupied territories.

2. Self-determination for the Palestinians.
3. Guaranteeing Israel's security.
4. The status of Jerusalem."

The Italian foreign minister assured his Saudi counterpart that Italy made great efforts during the conference in Venice to bring closer in line with each other the points of view of the European countries.

Above all, what does this mean in terms of taking a realistic approach with regard to these four points? It means that it is necessary to determine a way [to implement them]. But how and in what way is it possible to provide guarantees??

Nevertheless, some negative aspects exist. Prince Sa'ud said, for example, with regard to the European position: "The European position is not clear with regard to the matter of the PLO being the sole body which has the right to represent the Palestinian people, although the PLO had been recognized by 100 member states of the UN."

"Above all, the PLO has been authorized as such by the Palestinian people."

The Saudi foreign minister then expressed his dissatisfaction concerning the European analysis which says that Camp David constitutes a starting point [for finding a peaceful solution for the Middle East problem]. "In this case they are going to collide with paralyzing obstacles not only on the part of the Rejectionist countries."

Concerning the PLO, Colombo emphasized that it had primary consideration in the document which was made public after the recent Luxembourg summit meeting.

"As for the involvement with Camp David, a distinction should be made. Things do not depend on a continuation of those negotiations because the European initiative is something which is independent and has its own existence."

"But the nine countries do not want their initiative to be interpreted as either an alternative or as something opposed to Camp David because in such a case it would be difficult to involve Washington and consequently there would be less possibility for success."

At a dinner party which was given afterward at the Foreign Ministry in honor of the Saudi foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud gave a speech which was full of profound meaning. He referred to the strong relations which exist between Italy and his country. He talked about the fact that, in the past, these relations had been clouded. He said that this was not due to any desire on the part of his government or the Saudi people. These words were very meaningful ones, but at the same time they constituted an effort to bury the hatchet concerning the controversies which had accompanied the oil bribery scandal which had made the Saudis very angry.

On Saturday morning the Saudi foreign minister met Mr Forlani, the prime minister; Mr (Fanfani), head of the Senate; and Mr (Andriotti), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee in the Italian Parliament. Then another round of official talks was held between the representatives of Saudi Arabia and Italy. Prince Sa'ud

al-Faysal was the head of the Saudi group, and Mr Colombo was the head of the Italian group. The discussions dealt with important topics, including oil, the status of Jerusalem, the Horn of Africa, and trade between Saudi Arabia and Italy.

When talking about oil, Prince Sa'ud affirmed what he had already alluded to during the official dinner, that is, that his country did not bear any responsibility for the chill in relations which had occurred between the two countries in the past (due to the oil bribery and scandal which resulted from it as a result of purely Italian problems). He said: "The causes which led to a suspension of the agreement have already been eliminated, and we are happy to resume the discussions which were broken off." As we know, the matter concerns the agreement which was made between (Alagib), which belongs to the ENI Group, and the Saudi Petromin Co. This agreement stipulated that (Alagib) would be supplied with about 12.5 million tons of oil during the course of 3 years. The agreement was signed in the summer of 1979, but then it was suspended about a year ago because of the bribery scandal. Probably the Italian government has already given the Saudi government definite assurances concerning the innocence of Saudi officials with regard to that scandal.

After eliminating the obstacles which prevented Saudi oil from flowing to Italy, there remained the problem of balance of trade between Italy and Saudi Arabia. Colombo pointed out that the Italian deficit, during the first 7 months of this year, had already amounted to 1.772 billion [dollars]. This means that Italy imported 2.788 billion [dollars] worth of petroleum goods whereas it exported to Saudi Arabia goods which were worth only 1.016 billion [dollars]. This gap in the balance of trade is especially visible since it represents half of Italy's balance of trade deficit. At the same time, Saudi Arabia is in fourth place among the countries which provide financing to Italy, with West Germany being in third place. France and the U.S. are in the same category as importers of Italian goods.

The Saudi foreign minister expressed the desire of his government to cooperate, but he said: "The oil problem is not only an Italian problem, but is in fact, a general European problem. The reason for this is that Saudi Arabia certainly does not want to increase its oil exports."

Then he added: "Saudi Arabia certainly wants to have trade relations extend to various fields."

"We welcome the participation of Italy in the implementation of our country's five-year plan. In fact, we encourage this participation on the part of Italy. There are many areas which we can work in in order to be able to change the balance of trade situation between our two countries." Then he made special reference to construction and building operations, technical assistance in the field of agriculture, and assistance in the field of environmental protection. These are areas in which Italian companies have demonstrated their unique expertise in the past.

But there is another area in which Italy can improve its situation--making a direct agreement regarding oil. Mr Colombo insisted on the necessity of resuming a discussion of the ENI-Petromin agreement since it bars competition from international companies as well as from the free market in Rotterdam because the prices are much higher than those agreed upon.

The agreement stipulates that the price of a barrel of oil be $19. There is no doubt that this will be modified after the latest OPEC conference, which was held in Bali in Indonesia, decided to raise the prices of oil. The Italian foreign minister demanded that the matter get under way, and said that the head of the ENI Co. should visit Saudi Arabia as soon as possible in order to meet with his Saudi associates. (The official banquet was attended by prominent economists, financiers, and owners and heads of various large companies which could contribute toward the implementation of projects in Saudi Arabia.) The joint committee which is composed of representatives from the ministries of the two countries, and which held its first and only meeting in January of 1979, now must resume its meetings. The Saudi foreign minister himself emphasized that this was the normal framework for building trade relations which reflect a true desire to expand areas of cooperation [between the two countries].

The third topic which was discussed by Colombo and Sa'ud al-Faysal was that of the Horn of Africa. Sa'ud al-Faysal expressed his country's alarm concerning actions taken by the Ethiopian regime against Somalia. Colombo's response was that the Italian government had urged the Ethiopian leaders to undertake to solve their problems with Somalia through the Organization of African States. Colombo added; "There is another means of supporting the Somalis. It is a trilateral plan of cooperation in which Italy undertakes to furnish technical assistance and Saudi Arabia furnishes the necessary financial assistance for this program. This is a subject which the Riyadh government could study the various aspects of." The last topic was that of Jerusalem--that bloody thorn which is sticking in the heart of Saudi Arabia and of all the Moslem countries of the world. Prince Sa'ud described the matter of Jerusalem as being the central issue in all efforts to create a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli crisis. He emphasized that it is not possible to arrive at any agreement unless the "State" of Israel recognizes Arab sovereignty over Eastern Jerusalem. Colombo was careful to reiterate the Italian point of view which condemns unilateral actions on the part of the Israelis and urges the creation of a solution which respects the special status of the city and the lofty position which it occupies [in the eyes of the world].

The Saudi foreign minister also held a meeting on Saturday morning with Mr Forlani, the Italian prime minister, in the Government Palace. During this meeting, the Saudi foreign minister talked about the war between Iran and Iraq. He said: "Saudi Arabia hopes to see an end, in the near future, to the war which is taking place on the shores of the Gulf which are near to Saudi Arabia's borders." He said he hopes to see this happen as a result of the Islamic conference which is scheduled to be held this month. In any case, it was not made clear to what extent he was ready to support Iraq's claim concerning its sovereignty over the Shatt al-"Arab. When the subject turned to Malta, it was restricted to a request for information. Concerning the Syrian-Jordanian disputes, the Italians merely asked for clarifications concerning this matter. At the beginning of the meeting, Mr Forlani asked to have his thanks conveyed to King Khalid for his generous contribution of $10 million to help the victims of the earthquakes.

When Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal crossed the threshold of the bronze gate for his historic meeting with Pope John Paul II, this was the first time that a Pope had met with a member of the Saudi royal family--the family which is considered to be the protector

of the Islamic holy places. His private meeting with the Pope lasted for 45 minutes, and was preceded by a meeting with the foreign minister of the Vatican, Monsignor (Casaroli). In this meeting, Prince Sa'ud said: "The annexation of Eastern Jerusalem is illegal and invalid." His Holiness the Pope answered that he condemns any unilateral action concerning the city of Jerusalem and condemns anything which could lead toward the changing of the holy city's political status. Then the Pope urged that Jerusalem be a meeting place for those of the three religions—Christianity, Islam, and Judaism--whether they be people who live in Jerusalem or people who come to Jerusalem on pilgrimage. He added: "We must hasten to find a solution to the issue concerning the Palestinian people and concerning maintaining the unity and independence of Lebanon." The Pope and Prince Sa'ud also talked about the issue of Afghanistan and the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

Afterward a communique concerning this visit was issued from Vatican City. This happens very rarely after a private meeting, and indicates the importance of this event.

9468
CSO: 4802/408

SULTAN DISCUSSES VARIOUS GULF, FOREIGN POLICIES

Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 4 May 81 p 6

/Article: "Important Statements by Kuwaiti Foreign Minister: Oman Is Prepared To Eliminate American Facilities After the Elimination of Tension with South Yemen"/

/Text/ Yesterday in Kuwait a statement was attributed to the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, to the effect that Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, the Sultan of Oman, has promised that he will review eliminating the military facilities he has given the United States if the existing state of tension between his country and his neighbor South Yemen ends.

Kuwaiti daily papers quoted Shaykh Sabah as saying, at his meeting with their editors in chief the day before yesterday, that in his visit to Moscow at the end of last month he requested the Soviet leaders to help alleviate the severe tension between Oman and South Yemen, to which they are linked by a treaty of cooperation and friendship, by virtue of the "privileged relationship" between Moscow and Aden.

He added that he told Soviet officials that ending the state of tension in the southern Arabian Peninsula would be the "main" element in executing a promise he said Sultan Qabus had given him, to eliminate the air and naval facilities the United States has acquired in Oman through an agreement the two countries signed last year.

Shaykh Sabah visited both South Yemen and Oman last month in a new endeavor to settle the disputes between the two Arab countries, which have become almost endemic, especially now that Muscat has become a member of the Council of Cooperation which six Arab Gulf countries have recently established. The council also includes Kuwait, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain.

According to the statements published, the Kuwaiti minister said that he had explained the goals of the Council of Cooperation to Soviet officials, declaring that its purpose was to draw the powers of the region together to deter foreign dangers and keep them free from treaties and military bases. He also told them that it was not directed against anyone--"but that did not induce them to support the establishment of the council."

He said that the council whose member state leaders would hold their first summit in Abu Dhabi in 3 weeks, is facing numerous foreign and domestic obstacles, but he added that he was confident that it would be possible to overcome them, for a number of reasons, among them the fact that "common" circumstances and characteristics bind the Gulf states together.

He gave an example of foreign obstacles in the form of the doubts which he said some countries expressed regarding the council after the announcement of its establishment last February; he said that others have declared that it is a suspect council. Shaykh Sabah described the domestic obstacles as "similar to disputes within a single family, which rapidly end and disappear."

He said that the foreign ministers of the council's members states would discuss these problems toward the end of eliminating them when they meet in Abu Dhabi 2 days before the convening of the Gulf summit on 25 May.

Shaykh al-Sabah talked about the Lebanese crisis, renewing Kuwait's support for Syria's efforts to restore peace to Lebanon in the wake of the fighting of the past months. He said, "Since our Syrian brethren are exerting every effort and sacrifice to contain and overcome this tribulation, they are entitled to full support and backing from us."

He added that "all" belligerent parties in Lebanon "have welcomed" Kuwait's proposal to host a round table conference of these forces with the objective of settling the Lebanese crisis.

The Kuwaiti minister said that Syria, which was maintaining about 30,000 troops to preserve the peace in Lebanon, has agreed to the Kuwaiti initiative, but has declined to participate in the proposed conference as it does not consider itself a party to the crisis. He pointed out, "Our invitation to our brothers in Lebanon to meet in Kuwait has been and still is an initiative which coincides with the sincere efforts being made to stop the bloodshed."

Shaykh Sabah said that Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have refrained from paying their financial commitments for the Arab deterrent forces which are made up of the Syrian troops in Lebanon because these forces' have failed to present periodic reports on their activities every 3 months.

Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar had undertaken to pay the financial costs of the deterrent forces when they were established by the Arab League in 1976 to stop the Lebanese civil war.

11887
CSO: 4802/696

BRIEFS

NEW CEMENT PLANT--Costain International have signed a contract with Krupp Polysius A.G. of West Germany for the civil engineering works in connection with the new 600,000 metric tons per year cement plant in Rusail, Oman. The work in Oman will be carried out by Yahya Costain L.L.C. and will comprise the temporary housing accommodation, roads, ancilliary buildings and all civil construction for the plant. Work will commence within the next few months and the plant is due to go into production in the latter part of 1983. The main contractor is Krupp Polysius and the Consultant Engineer for the Oman Cement Company is Basse Sanbre E.R.I. of Belgium. [Text] [Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English 7 May 81 p 11]

CSO: 4820/343

TUNISIAN PSD: TURNING POINT

London 8 DAYS in English 25 Apr 81 p 5

[Text]

THE SPECIAL congress of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party (PSD) on 10-11 April undoubtedly marked an important turning point in Tunisian political life.

President Habib Bourguiba set the tone for the congress in his opening address. He called for Tunisia's democratic system to be broadened to take into account the 'degree of maturity of the population and the aspirations of youth'. But moving away from the one-party state will be contingent on the opposition accepting a 'national charter'.

The initial reaction of the various opposition groups was positive. Ahmed Mestiri, head of the moderate Movement of Democratic Socialists (MDS), indicated that he would rapidly seek permission to organise his party. The internal wing of the Popular Unity Movement (MUP), which recently under Mohammed Belhadj Amor broke with exiled Ahmed ben Salah, will also apply for official status.

The secretary general of the banned but tolerated Communist Party, Mohammed Harmel, made no secret of his views: 'The conditions imposed by the government are acceptable — if they do not lead to any restrictive interpretations,' he said. It remains to be seen just how many parties Bourguiba, the ageing *combattant supreme*, intends to permit. It is practically certain that the Islamic fundamentalist movement under Abdel-Fatah Mourou and Rachid Ghanouchi will not be allowed to set up shop as a legal political entity.

The election of a new PSD central committee and political bureau saw a new wave of young technocrats coming to positions of power and influence. They are more interested in consolidating political stability and stimulating economic growth than the often Byzantine political imbroglios which obsessed the independence generation.

CSO: 4820

EXTERNAL TRADE VOLUME GROWS, SHARP INCREASE IN IMPORTS

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 20 Apr 81 pp 30-31

/Article by Youssef Hechmi: "Tunisian Imports: What Development?"/

/Text/ In Tunisia, the development effort launched in the 1st decade /1970-1979/ and consolidated in the 20 decade /1980-1989/ found expression in an intensification of our trade with the outside world: The average annual growth rate of foreign trade during the decade just ended was 24.8 percent, compared to 6.8 percent during the 1st decade. Thus, imports of goods increased at an average rate of 25.5 percent per year (at current prices) during the period 1972-79.

Foreign trade as a component of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew considerably, going from 36.7 percent in 1972 to 54 percent in 1979. This reflects the consolidation of the opening of the Tunisian economy toward the outside. Thus, during the period under consideration, the volume of our external trade underwent substantial growth, especially in value, going from 395.4 million dinars in 1972 to 1,883.5 million dinars in 1979, and by the end of 1980 reaching the level of 2,283.1 million dinars. At the basic source of this evolution is to be found inflation, affecting both imports and exports. Thus it was reflected in an aggravation of the trade deficit which went from 74.4 million dinars in 1972 to 432.8 million dinars in 1979, showing an average annual increase of 28.6 percent. By 1980 it had already exceeded 500 million dinars.

With respect to the terms of trade, one finds the following: The price per ton of exports between 1972 and 1979 oscillated between 18 and 32 dinars, while the price per ton of imports varied between 85 and 185 dinars. Thus, the price ratio, which measures the degree of sophistication of exported products by comparison with imported products falls between .21 and .44. Expressed in percentages, the terms of trade are thus between 21 and 44 percent, while in France this ratio is higher than 150 percent, in Italy 250 percent, and in the FRG, 255 percent.

Obviously, this pronounced imbalance in our trade with the outside world goes back in the first place to the sharp increase in our imports, as mentioned above, for development purposes. In reality, our imports increased considerably during this period, going from 234.9 million dinars in 1972 to 1,156.8 million dinars in 1979 at current prices, showing an annual growth rate of 25.5 percent. As a percentage of GDP, imports almost doubled during the same interval, going from 21.8 percent to 39.9 percent.

Structure of Imports

The import structure has also undergone obvious changes. Foodstuffs have declined, in percentage terms, while raw materials and semi-finished products have significantly increased. With respect to food, despite the decline this product group showed as a percentage of total imports--from 18.3 percent in 1972 to 12.7 percent in 1979, reaching 167.6 million dinars in 1980 [sic]. That increase is explained by the important share held by certain basic necessities, as the following changes illustrate:

Cereal grain imports quadrupled in value, going from 11.8 million dinars in 1972 to 46.9 million dinars in 1979. By the end of 1980, they had reached as high as about 70 million dinars. This is explained by the country's growing need for cereal products, especially as the country went through ticklish periods, basically because of the drought which was particularly severe in 1977 and 1978.

As for dairy products, imports grew sixfold during the period in question, going from 2.9 million dinars in 1972 to 17.3 million dinars in 1979.

--As for essential oils, our external purchases grew from 8.7 million dinars in 1972 to 28.5 million dinars in 1979, for a growth of 229 percent.

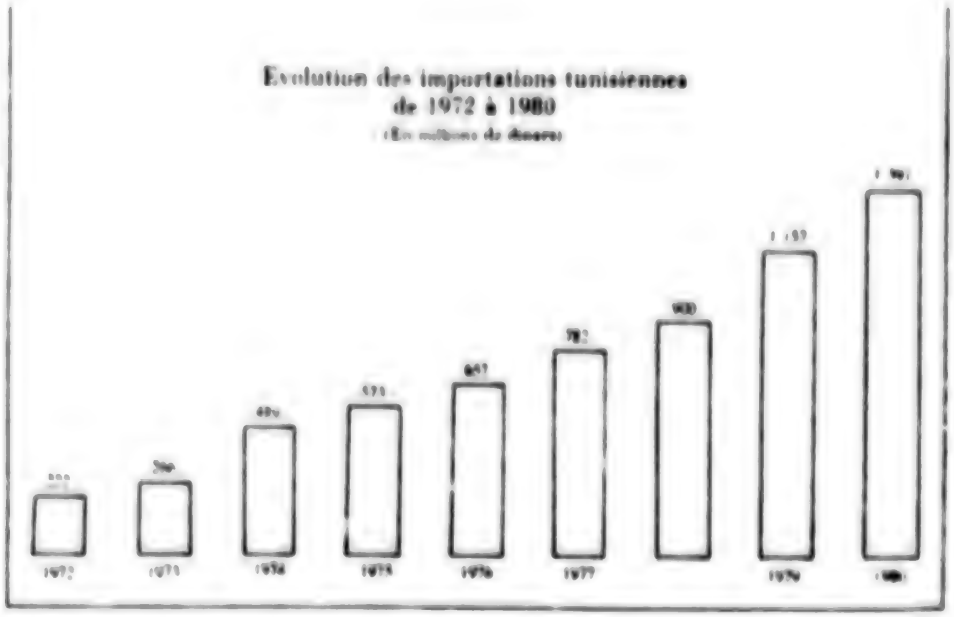
--As for other food products, especially noteworthy is the growth of our sugar imports (16.7 million dinars compared to 5.9 million dinars), coffee (4.4 million dinars compared to 1.2 million dinars) and tea (8.6 million dinars compared to 1.4 million dinars).

Our consumer goods imports grew significantly (up 29.1 percent per year), going from 32.9 million dinars in 1972 to 196.3 million dinars in 1979, to reach 213.2 million dinars by the end of last year. Their share of total imports also grew, from 14 percent in 1972 to 17.8 percent in 1979. In 1980, despite the growth in absolute terms, the consumer goods share of all imports diminished to the 15.4 percent level. In a general way, that growth is explained in the first instance by the increased imports in textile products intended to be remade subsequently re-exported. In reality, imports brought in under "suspended tariff" provisions grew from 2 million dinars in 1972 to 77 million dinars in 1979. In the second instance, that growth is due to the increasing importation of certain products such as pharmaceuticals (20.6 million dinars in 1979, compared to 6.4 million dinars in 1972) and vehicles (56.1 million dinars in 1979).

Concerning equipment goods, imports grew at a pace of 23.4 percent per year, from 64.8 million dinars in 1972 to 286.8 million dinars in 1979, notwithstanding their slight decline as a share of total imports (25 percent in 1979, against 28 percent in 1972). That pace was even slightly faster than the growth of investment, which was on the order of 22 percent. At the end of 1980, purchases of equipment goods were up to 319 million dinars, an increase of 14.2 [percent] or 40 million dinars over 1979.

As for raw materials and semi-finished products, imports increased during the second decade, going from 84.3 million dinars in 1972 to 520.4 million dinars in 1979. This was reflected in the increased share this product group had in total imports (45.3 percent in 1979, compared to 36 percent in 1972). Also, this growth is primarily explained by the increase in the energy-product share of total imports. This share grew from 7.6 percent in 1972 to 17.5 percent in 1979. Among products that have shown significant growth could be mentioned purchases of crude petroleum (112 million dinars in 1980 against 7.9 million dinars in 1972) and gas-oil (76.7 million dinars in 1980 compared to 1.1 million dinars in 1972). This growth is explained secondly by the increase in raw materials and semi-finished products in relation to the growing needs of the industrial sector in those products. In addition, the average annual growth rate in this latter category was far higher than that of production in the industrial sector, showing an elasticity of 1.47 percent for these products in relation to industrial production. Thus, to produce one industrial unit, we have to import 1.5 units of raw materials and semi-finished products.

In effect, that modest observation constitutes a striking example indeed which goes far to explain the problem of transferring technology from the industrialized countries to the developing countries such as Tunisia. The North-South dialogue has not yet resolved this question and the remedy is not at hand in the near future.



Evolution of Tunisian Imports from 1972 to 1980
(millions of dinars)

9516
CSO: 4800/56

TUNISIAN SIXTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN DISCUSSED

London 8 DAYS in English 25 Apr 81 pp 18-19

[Text]

Tunisia's sixth plan is geared towards striking a balance between Ben Salah's socialism and Nouira's free market policies, promoting social justice and expanding work opportunities in the job market.

THE TWIN watchwords for Tunisia's third development decade in the 1980s are to be change and reform. Under Mansour Moalla, minister of planning and finance, the Tunisian economy is to be redeployed to face the multiple challenges of a rapidly-evolving world economic outlook, come closer to meeting the basic needs of the country's rising population and stimulate industrial and agricultural diversification.

A preliminary 220 page report entitled 'Orientation Note for the Third Development Decade and the Sixth Plan (1982-86)' prepared by the ministry of planning is serving as the touchstone for continuing discussions and commission meetings which are hammering out sectoral guidelines. The new plan is not expected to be approved before the spring 1982 parliamentary session.

The cautious liberalisation of Tunisia's political life in the past year under Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali is to be reinforced on the economic front by a series of measures designed to bring about greater social justice and popular participation in decision-making. Officials closely associated with Mzali and other 'liberals' in the government have been increasingly critical in public of 'excessive liberalism' during the 10-year rule of the former premier, Hedi Nouira. They say it encouraged the creation of a *nouveau riche* class and increased social inequality.

A top priority for Planning Minister Moalla in the next few years will be striking a new balance between the private sector, the parastatals and the cooperatives. In brief, he is seeking to achieve a synthesis between the push for socialism in the 1960s under Ahmed ben Salah and the free-market bent of Nouira in the 1970s. The 1980s, therefore, should be a decade of controlled or planned liberalism.

A key prerequisite for the success of the emerging economic policies will be close collaboration between Moalla and the minister of the economy, Abdelaziz Lasram. They already work closely together but tend to represent different sectors of Tunisian economic life. Lasram is closer to the young generation of dynamic businessmen and entrepreneurs, while Moalla is associated with the more traditional Sfax commercial and trading bourgeoisie. It is Lasram's task to translate into day-to-day economic practice the general economic principles worked out at the ministry of planning. Decisions on pay policy, investment incentives and union-management relations will largely condition the eventual success or failure of what foreign observers have already dubbed the 'Moalla approach'.

The 'priority of priorities' during the Sixth Plan and beyond is expanding employment opportunities for a growing and increasingly well-educated population. During the 1970s, 400,000 new jobs were created, while 570,000 young Tunisians

entered the job market in the present decade. 665,000 new job seekers are expected, obliging the government to create more than half as many more jobs each year as in the 1970s.

With hopes for full employment judged to unrealistic, the goal is to achieve higher employment. In addition, efforts are to be taken to help skilled Tunisian workers find jobs in the richer Arab states in the Gulf. Migration to France is expected to slow down because of the West's economic crisis and many Tunisians are now wary about going to Libya in search of work.

The recent 25-30 per cent wage increase in both the public and private sectors is probably just a harbinger of things to come. It is hoped, however, that higher wages will stimulate higher productivity. Industrial integration and diversification are to be pushed, as only four products -- phosphates and their derivatives, oil, textiles and olive oil -- still make up 80 per cent of Tunisian exports. The mechanised industries have been singled out as promising well. Economic planners are keen on doubling their contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP) to about four per cent by 1986, enabling Tunisia itself to produce a number of intermediate industrial goods which are traditionally imported.

The performance of agriculture will be crucial to cutting back food imports, helping to moderate persistent deficits in the balance of trade. Legislation is to be revised to encourage farmers to reorganise their land holdings into more efficient groupings, while irrigation schemes are to be expanded. Above all, it is hoped to convince the young generation of farmers to stay on the land.

Investment is expected to total between $17.5bn and $22.5bn, 20 per cent of which will come from abroad, with the Arab world playing a larger role than at present. The new joint investment banks — one with Saudi Arabia, another with Kuwait and a third with France (Iraq might also participate) — will have a combined capital of some $750m, a valuable source of investment funds.

CSO: 4820

OBSTACLES TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXAMINED

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 29 Apr 81 p 19

/Article by Youssef Mechmi/

/Text/ In the end, while there has always been a lot of talk about regional balance, the promotion of disadvantages regions, industrial decentralization, etc., the coastal area has for a long time been the birthplace of commercial and industrial dynamism; basically the coastal area.

There was investment in the big cities, in the industrial areas where supplies of water, electricity, spare parts, managers and skilled workers were not hard to find. There was investment in the big cities and on the coast because the road, rail, and cultural infrastructure was available. At least, there was some infrastructure that could encourage the establishment of industrial or other units. Thus, there was investment in the regions endowed with community social infrastructure.

That explains the regional imbalance. Certainly, there are other factors such as colonization, which contributed in the first place to that developmental inadequacy. But there is also the despair of a man who, facing such a situation, found himself confined to agricultural work using methods as archaic as they were unprofitable. So with good reason, one worked all day, all one's life, in order to have, at the end of one's "career," an anticipated retirement and children on one's hands. The agricultural worker had no assurance about his future. The result: Rural exodus empties the countryside of its human potential. Better to work in town 6 months of the year, underpaid, than to vegetate in the country. Were there not many who thought this way? Agriculture. This is another aspect of the question. And the most important. For one cannot reflect on the problems besetting progress in the northwest region without taking this decisive factor into account. But it is the complexity, the diversity of institutions dealing with agriculture which must be reconsidered and made more tractable.

In order to wipe out unemployment and poverty in the northwest regions, concrete measures have been taken. Nevertheless, one cannot correct the regional imbalance with a simple wave of a magic wand. Because the problems are too fundamental. Development and promotion of the most disadvantaged regions is today more than ever before an essential option to be made real, for it is the sine qua non for the integrated development of the country and an objective means of equitably apportioning economic projects and thus also the national wealth.

The anti-unemployment plan, whose broad lines were laid down and announced by the prime minister, represents in itself a large step toward the promotion of these regions, as it encourages the employment of young people and the creation of small and medium-sized enterprises. At Beja, Jendoub, Kef, and Siliana, all agricultural regions, the regional authorities have already put into operation a program of public information about these latter measures and of sensitizing promoters. Thus, several meetings are being held between officials and citizens at the local level. At Beja, the premises that will hold the Northwest Development Office are ready. Another grandiose project which buoys up hope in the farmers of the region.

But this undertaking finds itself objectively confronted with various obstacles which only a change in the "agricultural mentality" and a veritable reorganization of administrative and banking structures at the regional level could efface. First of all, in terms of the creation of small and medium-sized enterprises, the problems definitely stem from the absentee of an industrial or commercial tradition in the region, but also from the hesitation on the banks to provide credit to regional developers.

Since 1979, at Kef, out of 12 project studies made by the National Industrial Studies Center (CNEI), only 6 had the endorsement of banks. One project to build a bakery at Sakiet Sidi Youssef, though it had the approval of the Investment Promotion Agency (API), was turned down by two local banks. Elsewhere, at Sidi Bouzid, in 1980, we were told, none of the 80 projects proposed to the appropriate institutions received a positive response. First of all, do the banks have other criteria for granting credit or not? If not, then how can this state of affairs be explained? Another developer had to wait 6 months to obtain from the bank the necessary funds to begin his work. Often, in the space of 6 months, many things change. The cost of the project, for example! Moreover, a project study is always costly and requires continual contacts between the developer and regional API and CNEI centers, which are not located in all the governorates.

To do anything with agriculture, in-depth training of the farmers is indispensable. This should not be solely the responsibility of the local and regional authorities or the UNA (National Farmers Union), but also of the appropriate governmental services and national news organs. For it is a question of struggle against a state of mind whose origin is found in the failure of the experiment of collectivization. Also, for the farmers in this region which has experienced the harsh consequences of that experiment, any innovation, any project or program that affects the land is perceived as a gamble. And as agriculture depends, in part on the "vagaries of weather," the feeling of complacency and inertia has become strengthened over the years. This also explains the reluctance of farmers to attempt hot-house cultivation.

Today, the measures put into effect to struggle against unemployment and reduce regional imbalance are supported by the political determination to promote the disadvantaged regions. Hope is reborn. But much remains to be done.

9516
CSO: 4800/56

TUNISIAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OUTLINED

Kuwait KUWAIT TIMES in English 30 Apr 81 p 12

[Article by Anthony Rumman]

[Text]

TUNISIA's new £7,000 million Five Year Plan concentrates on agriculture. Steps to improve productivity are to get absolute priority.

Tunisia needs to buy much of its food from abroad and these imports each year drain away much of its small foreign exchange earnings.

The state publicity machine has emphasised the need for greater productivity recently and said that not only a massive investment needed but a change in the mentality of small farmers. Conservative resistance to new techniques must be counteracted.

The plan aims to create 61,000 new jobs each year, which should help to provide employment for school-leavers with no prospects at present of finding jobs.

There is urgent need for rapid growth in employment in the face of the world-wide recession which has effectively barred Tunisians from emigration or work in France (where in all some two million Arabs of the Maghrib — Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco — are settled).

Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali recently spoke out against continuing grave inequalities in Tunisian society, in which the top twenty per cent of the population enjoy fifty per cent of the national product, and at the bottom of the scale twenty per cent only five per cent.

WARNING

He went on to warn of the seriousness of large-scale permanent unemployment as existing in Tunisia. "It is impossible" he said "to conceive of a stable and unified society if one part of the population has no source of revenue."

Even for those who do have jobs, wages are often barely sufficient to cover basic living costs which in some respects are as high as in Western Europe, despite minimum wages of less than one quarter (£65 per month) and no system of state unemployment assistance.

The government has decided to continue in full massive food subsidies, cushioning the effect of world price rises in such day-to-day items as sugar, bread and pasta.

PLIGHT

Many people here think no government could survive popular indignation and outrage if such items were priced out of their reach by withdrawal of subsidies. The official explanation is that food subsidies are "the best way to protect the interests of the poorer classes."

The cost of buying at full international prices and selling at one-third or less is crippling to the state — the sugar subsidy, for instance, costs some £31 million annually.

The government hopes to contain labour unrest and inflation by holding to the Social Pact, an attempt to keep down salaries by a negotiated annual review, on the basis of the rise in the national cost of living.

Nevertheless, it recognises the special plight of the 40,000 lowest-paid state employees whose wages will benefit early in 1981 from realistic reassessments of their inadequate pay-scales. For the great majority of poorly paid workers in the private and cooperative sectors, there is no such "realistic" rise

...s ... to look forward to.

Aside from inflation and a large trade deficit, one of the problems of the economy has been the critical shortages in the shops of a whole range of goods caused, claims the state, by panic-buying, hoarding and speculation, fed by rumours of imminent price rises.

Tunisia's economic weakness and close dependence on the European Economic Community as a market for its agricultural exports makes the state planners very anxious over future changes in the structure of the EEC as well as the continuance of the Common Agricultural Policy. Now that Greece has recently a full member of the EEC and Spain and Portugal are also likely to join, their agricultural produce will compete even more closely with Tunisia's and be granted aids which could threaten Tunisia's existing markets.

EXPORTS

At present, nearly 80 per cent of Tunisian exports go to the EEC, much of them in the form of olive oil. Olives are the life blood of Tunisian agriculture, providing a living for almost one million people, or one sixth of the population.

Unlike its neighbours Algeria and Libya, Tunisia has no great natural resources of oil or gas, but it is a large producer of calcium phosphates. It has made full use of its coast to develop a mass tourist industry, although tourism has suffered from the depression.

There is little doubt that it is right to concentrate on agricultural production and productivity, rather than on other sectors of the economy.

GEMINI

PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT AFFAIRS

JN210945 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0630 GMT 21 May 81

[Interview with Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan]

[Excerpts] Jidda, 21 May (GNA)--The UAE president, his highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, has asserted that the Gulf Cooperation Council is no more than a part of the continued Arab effort to bolster the Arab stand and enhance the effectiveness of the Arab League. In an interview published today in the newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT and in the ARAB NEWS, published in Jidda in Saudi Arabia, his highness Shaykh Zayid said: The Gulf Cooperation Council is an additional shield for the Arab nation that strengthens one of the flanks of the Arab homeland.

The text of his highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan's interview with the two papers' correspondent is as follows:

Question: In your capacity as the first future chairman of the cooperation council of the Arab states of the Gulf, what is your opinion on the importance of this council? Why was it established? Why was its membership limited to the six homogeneous states? Will other states be accepted as members? What do you think of the criticism which says that this council weakens the role of the Arab League?

Answer: When we discovered that the Arab nation does not obtain its rights and its respect from others except when it achieves solidarity and unity, we began thinking of establishing this council after we held consultations among ourselves and after the fraternal Gulf states were convinced. Nobody doubts that division is weakness and unity is strength. We in the Gulf are organs in the large body of the Arab nation. We derive our strength from it and it derives its strength from us.

Despite the fact that the six member states in this council are homogeneous and similar in their geography, common heritage, social structure and political system, this council does not constitute in any form a new regional or independent institution. On the contrary, it is an additional shield for the Arab nation that strengthens one of the flanks of the far-flung Arab homeland.

Question: On the "Gulf security" about [illegible] the world is talking these days: What is the UAE's concept of Gulf security?

Answer: Our concept of Gulf security is that the Gulf states should be left to live in security and stability without any assistance from external forces, without the intervention of the big powers or others to define the fate of this region and without viewing this region as a zone of influence to anyone. The security of the Gulf is the responsibility of the states in the region and these peoples. These states are capable of guaranteeing this security. The best way to provide security for the Gulf region, which is extremely important and vital for the world and the world economy, is to keep it far away from the conflict of the superpowers and from the atmosphere of confrontation which disrupts security and stability in this region. The basic role which the Western and other states can play to safeguard security and stability in this region and throughout the Middle East lies in seeking to establish a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian issue and in putting an end to the continued Zionist aggression in Palestine and Lebanon, since this aggression is the source of the essential danger in the region and threatens its security and stability as well as that of the entire world.

Question: [words indistinct] annexed by Iran?

Answer: Our stand on the three islands is clear and simple. These islands are part of the UAE and belong to it. We hope to be able to solve our difference with Iran with understanding and dialogue based on logic, the bonds of brotherhood and religion that tie us together and justice which God Almighty gave to his worshippers on earth.

Question: What is your opinion and the UAE stand on the war [words indistinct]?

Answer: [words indistinct] neighborliness and Islam. Therefore, we sincerely hope to see the day when the war between them will be transformed into harmony and their strengths and potentials flowing in one direction in confronting the enemies of the Arab nation and Islam. We back and support every effort and quest to stop this war and end its calamities and grave losses, for these two Muslim countries as well as for us all, within the framework of the principles of goodneighborliness, Islamic brotherhood, nonintervention in the domestic affairs of others, and respect for the legitimate rights of all.

Question: Now that parliamentary life has been restored in Kuwait, does the UAE have any arrangements for introducing a similar step?

Answer: Everything happens at its proper time. We are taking it into consideration and thinking of promoting and laying down the sound bases for forming and crystallizing the needed methods, which would, in turn, bolster representation and participation. However, fraternal Kuwait took a number of years to reach this result and we believe that we should not rush matters. Rather, we should leave the social process to gradually take its course until the suitable circumstances prevail. Then, we would not hesitate to introduce whatever would be in our and our people's interest.

Question: Your Highness, what is your opinion of the current development in Lebanon and the situation between Syria and Israel?

Answer: We support Lebanon and are concerned over its unity, independence and the safety of its territories, which are being subjected to continuous and vicious Zionist attacks. We also support the legitimate authorities in Lebanon in all their attempts to achieve national accord and safeguard Lebanon's unity and independence. We hope that these authorities will be supported by Lebanon's leaders, so that Lebanon's enemies and the Arabs' enemies would be forestalled. We support any Arab efforts being exerted to help Lebanon emerge from its crisis and safeguard its unity and the safety of its territories.

Furthermore, we support Syria in its confrontation of the Zionist aggression and its pan-Arab stand, which is manifested through its confrontation of Israeli expansion.

We believe that the "missile crisis" is fabricated and that the demand for these missiles' withdrawal is an obvious proof that Israel wants no barrier to impede its aggression on, expansionist policy in and attempts to impose hegemony over Arab territory. Israel wants its planes to "gallivant" across Lebanon's skies and shell Lebanese cities and villages and Palestinian camps without being deterred or hindered.

In this regard, we call on the United States to apply pressure on Israel and seriously work to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, a peace which would grant the Palestinian people their legitimate rights, including the right to establish their state on their land. We are not calling for this only because we want to establish right and justice but also because the Israeli usurpation of Palestine and the continuous Zionist attacks on Lebanon constitute not only a threat to the security and stability of the Middle East region but also to the entire world.

Question: How do you view future relations with France now that Mr Francois Mitterrand has won the elections?

Answer: We believe that relations among states are determined by a group of objective factors which are based on geography, history and common interests. While expressing our appreciation for the prominent role played by former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in strengthening France's friendship and cooperation relations with Arab world and the understanding he showed of the just Arab issue, we are certain that he proceeded in his stands from the premises of ancient French heritage and his concern over France's interests. Thus, we believe that any new president will keep in mind the same principles, since this would be in keeping with the joint interests of France and the Arab world as well as the principles of right, justice and human values. We do not for a minute doubt that the new president Francois Mitterrand would respond to these principles. We also hope that the new president would guide his country in such a way that its interests would be guaranteed.

Question: What did you tell the leaders who recently visited the UAE? What did you tell them about the Middle East crisis and Gulf security?

Answer: We told them in all simplicity that the major threat to the entire region is the Zionist threat. We told them that a just solution must be found for the issue of the Palestinian people, who have been expelled from their land and whose property has been seized, and that the Zionist aggression against Lebanon must be stopped. We also told them that if the big powers do not adopt a just stand and be impartial to the oppressed, the Middle East crisis will not be solved. Everyone knows that Israel is the aggressor and oppressor. If these big powers base their stand on the principles of justice and consider their interests all over the Middle East, many matters will be changed and settled.

Question: In your opinion, what are the bases on which relations between the industrial and oil-producing states should be founded?

Answer: We believe that the world economy today is an integrated one and that no state or group of states can live in isolation. Thus, we have always stressed and are still stressing the need to conduct a constructive purposeful dialogue between Third World states--and the oil-producing states are an indivisible part of this--in order to study all the economic issues pertaining to world inflation, prices of raw materials, development projects and technological cooperation with the purpose of establishing a new, just and compatible world economic system.

CSO: 4802/711

GANDHI TALKS TO PRESS BEFORE LEAVING DUBAYY

BK1316 34 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 May 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi told a news conference in Dubayy this afternoon before leaving for India that she has had a very successful tour of the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. She had come mainly to convey the friendship of the people and the government of India to the countries of the Gulf, and she thought she had been able to do that. She said her talks with the UAE leaders related mainly to global matters and bilateral issues came up only in (?passing).

India's deep concern was that the growing tension in the Gulf area should not come to India's borders. She had discussed how they could all cooperate to reduce this tension.

Asked about oil supplies to India, she said her government had made arrangements to meet India's immediate needs. She was hopeful that India's friends would help her to meet their future requirements. Meanwhile, India is doing its best to develop its own oil resources.

Speaking about investments in India from the Gulf countries, Mrs Gandhi said India has gone quite a long way in liberalizing its policy regarding foreign investments and there are indications of a number of joint ventures. If there are specific projects which require looking into, this would be done.

A correspondent asked her to comment on the position of Muslims in India. Mrs Gandhi said all religions of the world are represented in India. The Muslim population in India is the second largest in the world. They live in peace and harmony with other people. True, occasionally there are unfortunate incidents of communal trouble. But, she pointed out that the same sort of violence is taking place in various parts of the world, including Northern Ireland, parts of the United States and European countries. To single out India is not realistic.

Mrs Gandhi said few countries in the world give equal rights to minorities as India has done. The highest posts in the executive, judiciary and other fields have been occupied by the minorities. She said communal incidents

in India are sought to be exploited and aggravated for political reasons. She said the government is deeply committed to the rights of minorities and does not want to see them merely on paper but in actual practice.

In reply to a question, Mrs Gandhi said that during her talks with the UAE president she had mentioned India's point of view on the U.S. arm supply to Pakistan. Asked for her views on the Gulf Cooperation Council, she said it is a good idea for the Gulf countries to get together to strengthen themselves.

Answering another question, Mrs Gandhi denied that India had sold Centurian tanks or any ammunition to South Africa.

On recent talks on Lebanon and Israel's refusal to implement the UN Resolution, Mrs Gandhi said it is for those who have influence on Israel to persuade it to come to terms.

CSO: 4820/341

SOVIET OFFICIAL CITED ON KUWAITI-SOVIET TALKS

GF201840 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 20 May 81 p 6

[Dispatch by Shakir al-Jawhari from Moscow]

[Text] Official Arab circles continue to show great interest in the visit Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, made to Moscow recently. Soviet officials have not concealed their great pleasure at the Kuwaiti minister's visit. A Soviet Foreign Ministry official told AL-KHALIJ that the Soviet leadership views Shaykh Sabah's visit as an important turning point in the history of Soviet-Arab relations. He said: This visit has elevated our relations with Gulf countries. He said that in Moscow they are prepared to do anything to further develop these relations. He declared: We believe that the existence of a dialogue with the Gulf countries is better than its absence.

The Soviet official asserted that the views of the Soviet Union and Kuwait converged on many of the issues discussed and particularly regarding the removal of foreign bases and forces in the Arabian Gulf.

The Soviet official told AL-KHALIJ that Shaykh Sabah told Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko that Oman's Sultan Qabus has officially told Kuwait that he will abrogate the agreement he concluded with the United States granting it military facilities if reconciliation between Muscat and Aden is reached. He added that Shaykh Sabah asked Soviet leaders to work in Aden to achieve success in the efforts to mediate between the PDRY and Oman.

The Soviet official said: Shaykh Sabah asked the Soviet foreign minister directly if any U.S. military intervention in the Arab Gulf region would necessarily mean Soviet military intervention. The Soviet official said Gromyko replied that Moscow cannot give an answer in advance, but if U.S. military intervention should take place the Soviet leadership would study the situation and make the appropriate decision in the light of the circumstances of the U.S. intervention.

With regard to the Gulf cooperation council, the Soviet official said Shaykh Sabah explained the objectives of this project to the Soviet minister and that the latter told the Kuwaiti minister that the Soviet leadership will study this project in the light of this information and will inform Kuwait of its official view on this matter through diplomatic channels.

The Soviet official said Shaykh Sabah told Soviet officials that the most important goal of the Gulf cooperation council is the removal of foreign forces and bases from the Arabian Gulf region and to keep it free of the conflicts between the superpowers. This is in line with Brezhnev's proposals for keeping the region neutral and removing foreign troops.

The Soviet official said the Kuwaiti minister showed understanding regarding Soviet reservations on Omani participation in the Gulf cooperation council, but he said Moscow can contribute toward creating favorable conditions for the abrogation of the Omani-U.S. agreement granting facilities to the United States, thus referring to Soviet influence on Aden's decisions.

The Soviet official said Shaykh Sabah--while talking with Andrey Gromyko--reaffirmed Kuwait's support for Brezhnev's proposals on the Arabian Gulf. Shaykh Sabah said this principle should include the whole region, including Afghanistan.

Reports here indicate that the Soviet Union is prepared to accept a settlement of the Afghan question, which is linked to the issue of Gulf security. Thus, Soviet forces would withdraw from Afghanistan in return for the cessation of all forms of U.S. interference in Afghan affairs through Pakistan and other countries. The withdrawal would also depend upon abrogating the Omani-U.S. agreement that grants facilities to the United States and freeing the Arabian Gulf of all U.S. military presence.

CSO: 4802/711

NEW DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENTS NOTED

Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 6 May 81 p 3

[Text]

Abu Dhabi, May 5 (WAM) Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdalla today issued a number of decisions transferring some diplomats at the Ministry and in UAE embassies abroad.

He issued a decision transferring the UAE Ambassador to Tokyo Ahmed Al Moqarab to the UAE embassy in Washington; transferring advisor in the UAE embassy in Morocco Yousif Abdul Khaliq Mohamed to the UAE Consulate in Karachi as Consul - General; transferring First Secretary in the Ministry Jassem Suleiman to the UAE embassy in Tokyo; and transferring advisor with the UAE permanent mission to the UN Mohamed Jassem Al Samhan to the Ministry.

Other decisions include:

- Transfer of Minister Plenipotentiary in the UAE's permanent mission to the UN, Mohamed Ali Al Tajer, to the Ministry.

- Transfer of Second Secretary at the UAE embassy in Baghdad, Musa Anu, to the UAE embassy in Rabat.

- Transfer of Second Secretary in the Ministry Ali Mohamed Ali to the UAE Consulate in Karachi.

Transfer of Third Secretary at the UAE embassy in Vienna, Abdul Khaliq Ali Saeed to the Ministry.

- Transfer of Third Secretary in the Ministry Isa Sultan Al Jaber to the UAE embassy in Khartoum.

- Transfer of attache in the Ministry Mohamed Majed Al Suwaidi to the UAE embassy in Madrid.

- Transfer of attache in the Ministry Jassem Mohamed Al Sabri to the UAE embassy in Sanaa.

Abdalla also issued a decision appointing Second Secretary in the Ministry Abdalla Hamad Al Badr as deputy director of the Ministry's financial affairs general department.

He issued another decision appointing members of the newly formed inspection department, which is headed by ambassador Abdul Rahim Al Mahmoud.

The members include advisor in the legal department Saeed Habib; Second Secretary in the administrative and financial affairs department Mahmoud Darwish; First Secretary in the department Mohamed Musabeh Khalfan; attache in the department Mohamed Ahmed Al Saiq; Third Secretary in the UAE embassy in Vienna Abdul Khaliq Ali Saeed; and researcher in the political department Mohamed Abdul Qassem Haj Hamad.

CSO: 4820/342

DUBAI FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES REPORTED

Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 4 Apr 81 pp 17-18

[Text] Dubai's External Trade Sets a New Record

The volume Dubai's external trade reached record heights in 1980, registering increases of 16% in the import account and over fifth per cent in the quantum of re-exports, despite limitations placed on trade movements by the Iran-Iraq war and lifting of the Western embargo on direct exports to Iran.

External trade statistics released last week by the Central Accounts Section of the Dubai Government show imports into the Emirate rose from 16,737 million dirhams in 1979 to 19,550 million dirhams in 1980 with monthly figures indicating a consistent upward trend right until December when there was a sharp drop of 1,300 million dirhams.

Rise in the import bill was spread across all nine classification of commodities but the sharpest increases were registered in manufactured articles, machinery and transport equipment, foodstuffs and chemicals, all of them reflected in a corresponding rise in commodity-wise re-exports.

Exports and re-exports constituted more than one fifth of Dubai's external trade during 1980. These were valued separately at 951.4 million and 3,219 million dirhams respectively. The ratio of exports and re-exports when the value in this sector was 2,253 million dirhams against an import figure of 16,737 million dirhams.

It must however be remembered that re-exports statistics do not include unofficial trade for which there is no reliable estimate. Figures for the current year to be published early next [year] are expected to be made more accurate with the introduction three months ago of the re-export declaration form which obliges traders consigning goods abroad to specify the quantity, value and point of shipment.

On the export side, the phenominal rise from 237.4 million dirhams in 1979 to 951.4 million dirhams in 1980 is understood to be accounted for by the inclusion of Dubai's petroleum products exports in the external trade statistics, for the first time. The bulk of this relates to the marketing of dry gas, methane and butane to countries such as Japan and Singapore who between them imported from Dubai fuels valued at 342 million dirhams during 1980.

This was made possible by the coming on stream last year of the Dugas gas liquification plant in Jebal Ali which is developing as a major export earner to this Emirate.

In regard to re-exports, Iran continued to be Dubai's best customer last year taking commodities valued at 1,379 million dirhams, followed by Saudi Arabia to which re-exports mounted to 628.5 million, 22 per cent up from 1979. The Sultanate of Oman leapfrogged from Number Ten position as re-exports destination to Dubai's No. 3 customer, taking commodities worth 375 million dirhams almost all of them mineral fuels and related products.

Japan continued to be Dubai's principle source of import especially of manufactured goods, machinery and transport equipment, increasing its share of this trade by almost eight hundred million dirhams to 3,683 million dirhams. It was followed by the United Kingdom whose exports to Dubai in 1980 fell marginally over the previous year while the United States improved its position with a rise of almost 400 million dirhams. Bahrain remained the principle source of supply for petroleum products like gasoline and diesel fuels.

A concerted French export drive in this region paid off with an improvement of about 150 million dirhams. In other respects, the countries of South-East and the Far East continued to take a larger share of this market with the exception of Hong Kong which slipped marginally from 504 million dirhams worth of exports in 1979 to 470 million dirhams last year.

CSO: 4820/342

OIL SUPPLIES TO PORTUGAL DOUBLED

Bahrain GULF MIRROR in English 25 Apr-1 May 81 p 25

[Text] THE UAE has promised to double its oil supplies to Portugal next year. Portuguese Prime Minister Francisco Pinto Balsemao has announced.

The UAE supplied 1.25 million tonnes of oil to Portugal last year, accounting for 15 per cent of the country's crude imports. The UAE deliveries in 1980 already represented a 300 per cent increase on 1979.

The promise was the main achievement Mr Pinto Balsemao took back with him from a trip to Oman and the UAE, his first official visit abroad since taking office last January.

Speaking to reporters at the airport, Mr Pinto Balsemao said the Arab world was a priority area for Portugal's foreign policy.

Mr Pinto Balsemao was the most outspokenly Pro-Palestinian member of the ruling Social Democratic Party before taking over as Prime Minister and played a key role in establishing diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia and the UAE as head of the party's International Department last year.

The possibility of opening an Arab League mission in Lisbon as well as a representative office of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), has long been under study by the Portuguese. PLO leader Yasser Arafat visited Portugal in 1979. Israel already has an embassy in Lisbon.

Portugal's new pro-Arab stand was emphasised earlier this month when the Bank of Portugal, for the first time, included two Arab banks in the group of lead managers of this year's republic loan.

At $500 million the loan was the largest for which the republic had ever gone to the Euromarkets.

CSO: 4820/342

SPENDING INCREASES ON INVESTMENT PROJECTS

Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 9 May 81 p 3

[Text]

Dubai, May 8 (WAM) The Public Works and Housing Ministry's annual report says the expenditure on investment projects carried out by the Ministry during 1980 totalled 740 million dirhams out of the Dh. 1046 million allocated, representing 70 percent utilisation.

The expenditure rate achieved a 12 percent increase compared to 1979.

The total of expenditure on school buildings for the past nine years amounted Dh. 650 million, which included the construction of 17 kindergartens, 64 primary schools, 17 preparatory schools, three secondary schools, three vocational schools and five hostels.

Expenditure on health projects in 1980 amounted about Dh. 78 million, carrying the total during the past nine years to Dh. 285 million.

Discussing the projects of the Justice, Islamic Affairs and Awqaf Ministry, the report said 63 mosques were built and 13 are under construction, while another 22 mosques will be built in different areas of the state.

It added that Dh. 174 million was spent on the projects of the Interior Ministry which included police stations, coastguard buildings and barracks.

Several police buildings are under construction in Abu Dhabi, Sharjah and Dubai.

The total expenditure on the Agriculture Ministry's projects during the same period amounted about Dh. 62 million which included 17 agricultural guidance centres and eight marine workshops.

Nine offices were constructed for the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry in the major cities and several social centres are being constructed.

The Public Works Ministry constructed 710 kilometres of roads during 1972-1980 costing Dh. 806 million. It is currently constructing 80 kilometres.

During 1972-1980 the Ministry constructed 4569 low-cost houses and is engaged in the construction of 1037 low-cost houses.

BRIEFS

IRAQI DIPLOMAT ARRESTED--An official source at the Interior Ministry has stated that at approximately 1930 on the evening of Tuesday, 19 May 1981, shots were fired at Iraqi national Suhayl Muhammad al-Salman in Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir Square in Dubayy. He was admitted to the hospital but died of his wounds 2 hours later. Dubayy police succeeded in arresting the culprit redhanded at the site of the crime. He was called Haydar Muhammad 'Ali, an Iraqi national carrying an Iraqi diplomatic passport and a German-made 7.65-mm pistol fitted with a silencer. He shot the victim twice in the head. The culprit confessed that he arrived in the UAE on 14 May 1981 to carry out this action. His real name is 'Abd al-Husayn Hamid 'Atiyah and he is an Iraqi citizen. Investigation revealed that the victim is an Iraqi citizen who has been living in the UAE for about 5 years. The official added: "The Interior Ministry condemns such criminal actions. The country's security forces are vigilant and will strike with a fist of iron anyone who seeks to undermine the state's security." [Text] [GF220641 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 21 May 81 p 1]

SOUTH AFRICAN SANCTIONS--Paris, 20 May (GNA)--UAE President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has reiterated the solidarity of the UAE Government and people with the South African people in their persistent struggle to end racial discrimination. In a message he addressed to the UN conference which began meetings in Paris today to impose sanctions on South Africa, the UAE President said that the South African Government's arbitrary policy, which aims at preventing the South African people from exercising their right to self-determination, and its recurrent aggressions against neighboring countries are similar to the policies adopted by the Zionist entity's government in occupied Palestine. In his message, the UAE President expressed the UAE's support for the heroic struggle being waged by the peoples in South Africa, Namibia and Palestine to end aggression against their rights and to achieve freedom, dignity and self-determination. The UAE President referred to the close cooperation between the racist governments in South Africa and Israel against the national liberation movements in South Africa and the Palestinian people. The UAE President reiterated the UAE's unswerving stand based on a complete boycott of South Africa and supporting any call for the imposition of sanctions against it. [Excerpt] [JN202127 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2030 GMT 20 May 81]

CSO: 4802/711

INTERVIEW WITH HASAN MAKKI CONCERNING ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 1 Jan 81 p 17

[Interview with Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, in San'a', by Fathi Sharif; date of interview not given]

[Text] He Reflects the Feelings of a Nation Which Has Lived Outside the Walls of History.

"We Want an Arab Summit Meeting in San'a' Which Would Experience the Concerns of Our People and Affirm Its National [Arab] Responsibility."

"We Call for the Establishment of a Special Fund for the Development of Yemen Which Will Have a Capital of 20 Billion Dollars for the Next 10 Years."

"Kuwait Offers Its Assistance in a Quiet, Shy Manner--with No Slogans or Fanfare."

"We Will Not Live Forever at the Mercy of Loans and Assistance. We Have a Plan Which Will Result in the Discovery of Tremendous Mineral Wealth."

"Talking About Discovering Oil Is Like Talking About 'The Thousand and One Nights,' and I Fear That Our Problems Would Begin If We Discovered Oil."

"Stability in Yemen Promotes Stability in the Gulf and in the [Whole] Area, and Any Disturbance of Yemen's Stability Is a Threat to the Whole Area!"

They are looking for the best road to travel in order to catch up with the modern age and with history. They are still convinced that right now they are living outside the walls of history, and that the 18 years which have passed since the rise of the Yemen Arab revolution have not given them an entry visa into the 20th century--which is starting to come to an end.

They--who live in the Yemen Arab Republic--also know that the course of events in their country's future will not be determined alone by the success of their leaders in consolidating and affirming their neutral political positions and in allowing the emergence of an independent national political trend which is far removed from foreign involvements and loyalties. These events will be determined primarily by the extent of their national economic independence and by the achievement of a balance between their country's permanent resources of national income--both resources from the ground and human resources--and the country's developmental aspirations as well as its ability to solve its problems and concerns.

It makes no sense for a country to talk about its need to independently make political decisions when it is constantly and permanently a captive of foreign loans and assistance might be. The reason for this is that, in the final analysis, all of this will necessarily affect the political and ideological positions taken by the country and its citizens, no matter what the circumstances might be and no matter how close relations might be with those countries. For this reason, the difficult equation which is being formulated by the leaders here, as they take everything into consideration, is based on finding a way out of this dilemma. They are continually in need of foreign assistance and loans, but they want to maintain their ability to act and their flexibility in making political decisions, and want to be able to do so unconditionally. This is not the only dilemma. But it is a dilemma which the leaders recognize and which will continue to exist for some time. It appears that the leaders in San'a' have found that the best way to minimize and nullify the effects of this dilemma is to open up the country to all other countries, economic organizations, etc. without saddling any of them with any political conditions. The Arab countries, Western countries, Eastern bloc countries, and the superpowers are all called upon to undertake any effort or engage in any activity as long as it is within the sphere of economic and social development. This neutralist position and balance helped to bring to Yemen some loans, technical assistance, and financial aid such that the amount of such aid and loans, during the course of the past 5 years, amounted to $1.5 billion--of the total invested during these 5 years, which amounted to $3.63 billion. Naturally, this represents a large percentage of the total. But this situation, based on the creation of a political stock market inside Northern Yemen, might have [negative] long-term effects on the country if it does not learn how to properly organize and determine the objectives as well as the channels of the large influx of capital which is entering the country by means of numerous brokers and middlemen!

We went to see one of the persons chiefly responsible for the economic policy of the YAR--a person who links his present economic activity with his past political activity. We brought up the subject of this balance which Yemen is existing on the basis of, and asked him what he thought the solution to it was.

Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for economic affairs and former prime minister, said: "Our only solution is to be found in our Yemeni land and our Yemeni people. We have information according to which the land in Yemen has enough minerals and wealth to enable us to get out of our dilemma and to come out of our present shell. For this reason, a large part of our investments for the second five-year plan (1981-86) will be made in the mining sector. This is particularly due to the fact that studies have shown that Yemen has large quantities of minerals such as copper,

chromium, iron, nickel, aluminum, and cobalt. Right now a large number of companies from the European Common Market and Eastern Europe are making geological surveys and basic ma s in order to more accurately determine areas of exploration in preparation for us, through the government, to present these studies to both Arab and foreign investors."

"I am able to say that copper right now is a good economic investment. The years of the new [five-year] plan will perhaps witness the discovery of large amounts of copper which will be suitable for export to foreign markets."

"As for oil, as you know, we have divided the country up into four areas. We have opened up the door to any company, of any nationality, which wants to obtain the right to explore for oil. Actually one foreign company right now is engaging in drilling and exploring operations. But so far there have not been any definite results to report. The fact is that we do not want to make a big thing out of this exploration for oil because so far it seems to us to be like talking about 'The Thousand and One Nights.' We do not want to start being the prisoners of dreams and the unpredictable future until the results of our oil exploration are definite and economically encouraging."

[Question] Do you believe that the discovery of oil might solve your economic problems?

[Answer] I believe that if we had enough oil to meet our requirements and domestic consumption, this might solve many of our problems. But at the same time I fear that other problems would begin if we discovered oil!

[Question] How do you get oil right now, and what prices do you pay for it?

[Answer] Our annual requirements of oil amount to 800,000 tons, including all derivatives. We still buy oil from the free markets in Rotterdam and other places, and at current prices. Because we have to pay steadily increasing prices, we have lately been forced to increase the price of oil inside Yemen because we are only able to pay 60 percent of the differences in prices of imported oil. The subsidy which the government provides its citizens with amounts to between 50 percent and 60 percent for all oil derivatives. We were expecting the latest Arab summit conference to decide to pay part of the differences in the prices of oil, after the price increases, in order to help the Arab countries which are unable to bear this additional burden. But the summit conference did not make any decision in this direction.

[Question] How long will you remain dependent on foreign loans and assistance?

[Answer] For a certain period of time the YAR, in order to implement its development programs, will be largely dependent on assistance and loans because of our low agricultural production which has been the result of limited rainfall and limited amounts of available water. Also, our income in foreign currencies is not enough for the expenditures and investment funds for our next five-year plan. Furthermore, we suffer from a lack of labor force because our workers are in other countries, although we recognize that these laborers play a basic role in our economy by sending large amounts of foreign currency to Yemen. Until we are able

to more intelligently and more knowledgeably achieve better utilization of all of our natural resource potential, we will remain dependent on foreign assistance.

[Question] But what I would like to find out is how many years will your country basically be dependent on foreign loans and assistance?

[Answer] I cannot tell you the answer to this. But I can tell you that, after our second five-year plan, that is, at the end of 1986, Yemen will have enough basic sources of income so that it will be in a much better position that it is now. In the future we will have a plan for self-sufficiency in terms of our resources in order to be able to support our long-term economic and developmental capabilities. But this does not mean that we are not always ready to accept investment and technical projects, offered by various countries and organizations, which can push Yemeni society toward new and evolving horizons.

[Question] What are the projects which you will be concentrating on in your next five-year plan?

[Answer] Agriculture. We have even allocated 50 percent of our investments for the next 5 years for supporting agricultural projects throughout the country, and this indicates our growing interest in this vital part of our economy. This also includes the building of dams. And we have the Tihamah Project for the construction of diversion canals, dams, and utilization of the valleys where rainwater collects so that large areas of our territory can be cultivated throughout the year. This long-range project is being supported by the Kuwaiti Development Fund and by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. We also have the Central Highlands Project, the al-(Janin) Project in Ma'rib, a project in Sa'dah, and other projects. All of these projects are concerned with promoting our agriculture, livestock, etc., and they are being supported by Arab countries, Arab development funds, and international financial institutions.

[Question] Do you have a definite idea, in comprehensive and integral terms, of the amounts of money which Yemen's developmental operations will require?

[Answer] We will need between $10 billion and $20 billion during the next 10 years in order to be able to finish building our basic economic infrastructure and in order to be able to function after that without depending on aid and loans. This will be done through the creation of an integral formula for mobilizing our human and material resources, increasing our productivity, integrating our public, cooperative, mixed, and private sectors, and meeting the challenges which we have inherited from our past.

Right now we are building our country starting from scratch. What we would like our fellow-Arabs to do is to give us a hand so that we can come out of our dilemma and so that we can catch up with developments and with the age which we are living in. We were hoping that the latest Arab summit conference would set up a developmental fund with a minimum of $15 billion of capital. But we were unpleasantly surprised by the fact that this amount turned out to be only $5 billion. That is, all of the poorer Arab countries will have to divide up only $500 million among themselves every year. Also, we submitted a plan to the summit conference in which

we called for the establishment of a special fund for the development of Yemen which would embrace all the Arab loans and assistance provided to Yemen. The idea was for this fund to supervise the development of Yemen, on the basis that this would be a pan-Arab responsibility. But so far there has been no serious interest in this plan.

Furthermore, we demand that our fellow-Arab countries occasionally treat us as they treat the European countries and Japan which receive loans from the Arab oil-producing countries which are loans with easy terms and have special interest rates.

[Question] But we have heard that you prefer to obtain loans and aid on an individual basis, and not have anything to do with the formula of combining such loans and assistance into a unified development plan.

[Answer] On the contrary. We welcome joint action on the part of all countries and Arab and foreign financial institutions. But we have found that some countries want to work with us independently and do not wish to be involved with the participation of others. We have no objection to this.

[Question] People say sometimes that your constant dependence on foreign loans and assistance might create a psychological frame of mind among uour leaders and citizens which would lead them to get used to this easy way of doing things, and that this does not promote the creation of the type of incentive to become self-reliant as quickly as possible.

[Answer] The fact is that we only chose this course of dependence on Arab and foreign aid and assistance because we actually do need to generate our productive capacities and to discover the natural resources and wealth which our territory contains so that we can come to the point where we can say to everyone who has offered us this assistance: "Thank you very much. But now we have our own resources!" I do not krow why some people focus their attention on the assistance and aid which we have been receiving from some countries for the sake of our development and raising the living standard of our people when we see that many of the advanced countries, such as Britain and France, still depend on loans from Arab and international institutions.

We are trying to build a country which, until only 18 years ago, lived isolated from the rest of the world. It was only after the civil war ended, that is, only 5 years ago, that we began setting up our first development plan. And in the history of the peoples of the world, such a short period of time is like only seconds.

[Question] There are complaints which I have heard from some Arab and foreign investors who currently are active in some of your country's development projects that obstacles are being raised by some of your minor officials in spite of the fact that there is a new investment law which people say is both flexible and is evolving.

[Answer] I do not believe that there are large problems between the Ministry of Economy and Arab and foreign investors. The cause of this problem could be that some minor officials do not know how to properly interpret the investment law which

grants quite a few guarantees and rights to Arab investors. But whenever any problems occur, any investor should immediately go see the higher officials in the Ministry of Economy. Since we believe that the volume of investment is still limited, it should be easy to deal with and solve these problems. I believe that there are some people in charge of implemnnting investment projects who have used this as a pretext to suspend and delay their work. As far as we are concerned, the minister of economy is prepared at all times to see any investor who has a complaint and to immediately work toward solving his problem.

[Question] Why have you not formed a special committee of higher officials who would deal with all investment matters and would make efforts to facilitate the dealings of investors with all of the government bodies so that these investors would not waste their time and effort?

[Answer] This suggestion is in fact being studied at the present time. But we are waiting until the number of investors increases. Right now it is sufficient for issues concerning Arab and foreign investment to be among the priorities concerning the plans and projects which are being discussed by the cabinet and the government's higher officials. We are doing everything that we can to make the job of the Arab investors easy. A few small problems should not represent obstacles in the path of the influx of capital and projects into our country.

[Question] When will you feel that you have stability in your country?

[Answer] When we have found solutions to the concerns of our citizens, and when development and prosperity reach every household in our cities, our rural areas, and on our highest mountain tops.

[Question] Why has your government not called for an Arab summit meeting to be held in San'a' so that the leaders of the Arab world can see the conditions that your citizens are living in?

[Answer] I agree with this suggestion of yours. If an Arab summit conference were held here, in San'a', then all the leaders of the Arab world might realize for themselves the historic responsibility which we are experiencing and they would comprehend the actual challenge which our people are confronted with in their fight against backwardness and poverty. All the leaders of the Arab world should feel that stability in Yemen means stability for the whole area. And when they feel that there is stability in Yemen, then the surplus of money which they have will mean more. But if there is instability in Yemen, then their surplus of money will be of no use to them. We know that there are some Arab leaders who possess conviction and who are continuing to give us a hand in order to help us to overcome our backwardness and to enter the present stage of history which we still have a long way to go before we reach!

[Question] What is Kuwait's position with regard to this issue?

[Answer] Kuwait was one of the first Arab countries which offered us a lot of assistance in a quiet, shy manner, and erected edifices which will always remain an eternal symbol of responsibility and noble Arab brotherhood. The imprint of Kuwait

is seen in the building of our university, schools, hospitals, and plants, and it is also seen in the large investment projects and continual loans. Kuwait will always remain in our hearts. You can ask any of our citizens about this, and you will find that this is true. I myself have talked to many of our humble citizens about this, and their feelings are the same as mine!

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